

Jordan Times

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UNRWA complains of lack of security

NICOSIA (AP) — The United Nations agency responsible for aid to refugees in Lebanon said Wednesday it was still unable to restore its operations fully because of the "precarious" security situation. A statement by the Vienna-based United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) said the release of two of its staff members allowed it "to reconsider resuming some of its activities" affected by the kidnapping. The agency is making contacts with the Lebanese government and other parties to seek improved security arrangements for the agency's staff. The statement said the UNRWA statement said that "now that the international staff is not totally preoccupied with resolving the kidnapping crisis," it has gradually increased the number of foreign staff in Lebanon, and resumed interrupted relief activities. "The security situation in South Lebanon, however remains precarious, and UNRWA cannot fully restore its operations in Lebanon without minimum security guarantees," the statement said.

EC votes down aid for Israel

STRASBOURG (AP) — The European Parliament Wednesday rejected a European Community (EC) financial aid package for Israel to protest the treatment of the Palestinian population living in the occupied West Bank and Gaza. The parliament rejected the EC's agreement to provide Israel with a loan and technical assistance of up to 85 million European currency units (76.9 million) over the next four years. The motion to pass the agreement received 143 votes in favour and 205 against. In separate votes, the parliament turned down two minor accords updating the EC's treaties on the sale of Israeli farm produce in Europe. It was the first time the parliament rejected EEC agreements since it was given the power last year to ratify foreign treaties. All three documents now have to go back to the 12 community capitals for renegotiation, which could delay implementation for several months. The vote represented a sharp rebuke to Israel for its policy in the occupied territories. Many deputies have also criticised Israel for breaching an unrelated pledge to allow Palestinians to export their farm produce directly to Europe. Much of the criticism on the floor of the parliament was directed at Israel's harsh methods to quell the Palestinian uprising in the occupied Gaza Strip and West Bank.

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Egypt briefs Arabs on peace efforts

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian Foreign Minister Ismail Meguid briefed ambassadors of 15 Arab countries Wednesday on talks last week with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. The meeting with the ambassadors was the first such gathering in 11 years. All Arab states except Oman, Sudan and Somalia closed their Cairo embassies after Egypt signed its 1979 treaty with Israel.

U.S. lifts China sanctions

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government is lifting sanctions against sales of new high technology to China, satisfied that Peking is not selling Silkworm anti-air missiles to Iran, a U.S. official said Wednesday. The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Secretary of State George Shultz informed Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian during a meeting Tuesday afternoon that the restrictions would no longer apply (See page 2).

4 killed in Aeroflot hijack attempt

MOSCOW (R) — A Soviet air stewardess and three passengers were killed when "armed criminals" tried to hijack an Aeroflot airliner on an internal flight, TASS reported Wednesday. The news agency said most of the hijackers were killed in the attempt Tuesday and the remainder had been captured. It did not say how many hijackers had been involved. TASS said the attempt took place during a flight by a TU-154 airliner on the Irkutsk-Kurgan-Leningrad route. It said the hijackers "aimed to escape abroad." It did not say where the attempt took place or where the plane finally landed.

Warsaw Pact plans meeting

PRAGUE (AP) — Foreign ministers of the seven Warsaw Pact member countries are scheduled to meet in Sofia, Bulgaria, at the end of March; the Czechoslovak state news agency CTK reported Wednesday.

New constitution for Tunisia

TUNIS (AP) — Tunisia's National Assembly has unanimously approved in first reading a new constitution which will do away with the concept of "president for life." The new constitution, approved late Tuesday night, will take effect after it is approved by two-thirds of the National Assembly. The vote to approve the constitution is expected later this year. Former president-for-life Habib Bourguiba, who ruled the country without interruption for 32 years following the end of French colonial rule in 1956, was ousted Nov. 7 by his prime minister, Zine Al Abidine Ibn Ali.

Iran wants to join IDB

TUNIS (R) — Iran has applied to join the 44-member Islamic Development Bank (IDB). IDB president Ahmad Mohammad Ali said Wednesday. An Iranian delegation attended an annual IDB board of governors meeting here Monday as observers and Tehran has applied to join the bank, he told Reuters. Iran's application to join the Arab-dominated bank must go before an IDB board of directors meeting in Jeddah next month.

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2 more Palestinians join martyrs as revolt enters fourth month

SILWAD, occupied West Bank (Agencies) — Two Palestinian boys died and several were wounded in clashes with Israelis Wednesday as the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza entered its fourth month.

Mohammad Osman Ibrahim, 18, was shot when stone-throwing demonstrators clashed with troops at the village of Silwad, relatives told Reuters. Eyewitnesses quoted by Reuters said soldiers at a roadblock delayed relatives from taking Faris to hospital for at least half an hour. He later died of his wounds, they said.

Palestinian sources said a second boy, 19-year-old Jamil Hijazi, was shot dead in the village of Turmus Ayya, apparently by Jewish settlers. Ramallah hospital staff said he died in surgery from a gunshot wound. The village is next to Mazraa Al Sharqiyyeh where Jews from a nearby settlement were implicated in the killing of a Palestinian Tuesday. At least nine Palestinians were taken to hospital with gunshot wounds in Ramallah and Nablus after clashes with troops. They said seven of them were shot in a riot at Faras Palestinian refugee camp.

In the West Bank village of Biddu troops arrested several Palestinians involved in an attempt to stab an Israeli soldier, the army spokesman said.

Shamir blocks cabinet vote, wants U.S. to drop peace plan

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel's divided government Wednesday failed to endorse a new American peace plan for the Middle East and a close aide to Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said the prime minister would try to convince American leaders in Washington next week to scrap the new proposal. Shamir successfully defeated attempts by the Labour Party to force a vote in the 10-member inner cabinet on the plan offered by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who has accepted the Shultz plan, attacked Shamir's refusal in a parliament speech. "We might miss this historic opportunity, and we won't have an answer, not for our generation and not for those to come, as to why we became afraid of peace," said Peres. "Why did we reject the outstretched hand because of imaginary fears?"

PLO non-committal on reported Walters meeting

TUNIS (Agencies) — Jamil Hellal, head of the Information Department of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), Wednesday refused to confirm or deny a CBS report that Vernon A. Walters, U.S. delegate to the United Nations, secretly met with top PLO officials in Tunis last week. Hellal told the AP: "Even if such a meeting took place, it would have been meaningless because the American attitude toward the PLO has not changed." "We are prepared to meet representatives of any government, anywhere and at any time, including that of the United States or Israel, provided only that the government concerned recognizes the PLO," Hellal added. Asked explicitly whether or not Walters met PLO officials in Tunis, Hellal replied: "I can neither confirm nor deny this report." Walters himself denied the reported meeting following his return to Washington. Robert Pelletreau, American ambassador to Tunisia, also denied the report. "I was with Walters at every meeting he had in Tunisia and I can assure you he met no Palestinians," Pelletreau said. In its report, CBS quoted senior PLO officials as saying Walters met a high-ranking PLO leader in a private home in a

seaside town near Tunis Saturday, just after Secretary of State George Shultz gave details of the new U.S. Middle East peace plan to governments in the region.

In a report from Paris, CBS said Walters had met secretly with PLO leaders at least twice before, saying the Nixon administration called on Walters, who speaks fluent Arabic, to establish a secret channel to the PLO.

That was before September 1975, when the U.S. government gave Israel a written guarantee that American officials would not negotiate with members of the PLO. Former U.N. Ambassador Andrew Young was fired for holding a 15-minute meeting with a PLO official in 1979. CBS said Walters met openly with Tunisian government officials but the details of his talks with the PLO leader remain a closely guarded secret.

The network cited PLO sources as saying they probably discussed how Palestinians could participate in any future peace talks.

Fateh statement

The largest Palestinian group denounced Tuesday Shultz's trying to impose Reagan's six-year-old Mideast peace plan while ignoring "the new realities" created by the Palestinian uprising.

Peres, Shamir's coalition partner and political opponent, asked the inner cabinet to decide for or against the U.S. plan before Shamir leaves for Washington next week but the right-wing prime minister refused, according to sources quoted by news agencies.

Shamir is opposed to key elements of the American proposals, particularly the convening of an international peace conference which is supported by Peres. "The government is split 50-50. We firmly believe the Shultz plan is a good plan. It's presently the only plan and the only hope to carry on with the peace process that has been torpedoed," said Ezer Weizman, a Labour minister-without-portfolio after the meeting. He said Shamir take a "negative answer" to Washington for talks with President Reagan and Shultz March 14. Shultz has asked for Israel's response to his plan by that time and Labour

leaders had hoped to commit Shamir to accept.

"Scrap the plan" A senior Shamir aide said later Shamir would try to convince U.S. leaders to scrap peace initiative as dangerous to both countries.

"The first priority is to get the Americans to drop the (new) plan, which is a danger to both countries, and to return to the good old Camp David agreements which are in the best interests of both countries," the official told Reuters.

"The best thing would be if they put the whole plan aside. But we have to be practical and realise they will probably not drop it as a whole, so we will have to see about changes and we know they are ready to make changes," he said.

Formal moves launched for Arab summit

TUNIS (Agencies) — Chadli Klibi, secretary general of the Arab League, formally notified the 21 member governments Wednesday of the Algerian proposal to convene a special summit meeting to support the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza.

League spokesman Mohammad Maghrabi said a simple majority of the membership was enough to convene the meeting proposed by Algerian President Chadli Benjedid. Maghrabi said the site of the summit would be determined after the members had replied. Seven Arab League members have informally endorsed the demand for a special summit this far: Algeria, Tunisia, Sudan, Kuwait, Jordan, North Yemen and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

On Feb. 28, Benjedid called for a special summit which would do more than just "take note of the situation in the occupied territories." An Algerian envoy presented the request Tuesday to Klibi in Tunis. Benjedid has sharply criticised what he said was Arab silence over the uprising and called for practical steps in support of the West Bank and Gaza protests.

League foreign ministers held an emergency meeting on the uprising in Tunis in January. PLO leader Yasser Arafat urged that an Arab League summit be held in the first week of April at a meeting here with Klibi Tuesday, the PLO news agency Wafa reported Wednesday.

The summit should enable "our Arab Nation to play its effective national role in supporting the uprising and the struggle of the Palestinian people," he said.

Swedish foreign minister begins visit

AMMAN (J.T.) — Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Andersson arrived here Wednesday on an official three-day visit.

In a statement upon arrival, Andersson said he was hoping the visit would allow him a chance to discuss Middle East problems and means of developing Swedish-Jordanian relations. "Sweden maintains excellent relations with Jordan and there are prospects of expanding bilateral cooperation in the future," the minister said. "Sweden continues to support all efforts for a comprehensive Middle East peace settlement and backs the Palestinian people's legitimate right to self-determination," Andersson said. Andersson, who arrived here after a visit to Israel and the occupied West Bank, said



His Majesty King Hussein is seen off Wednesday from Baghdad by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and (right) is received upon arrival in Kuwait by the emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah (Petra photos)

King returns after talks with Iraqi, Kuwaiti leaders on American plan

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein returned home Wednesday after visits to Iraq and Kuwait and talks with their leaders on the latest developments in the Middle East, the new American proposal for Arab-Israeli peace and the escalated "war of cities" between Iran and Iraq in their seven-and-a-half-year-old conflict.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the King, who flew to Baghdad Tuesday and held talks with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein during an overnight stay in the Iraqi capital before visiting Kuwait Wednesday, explained to President Hussein and Kuwaiti Emir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah Jordan's position on the American plan.

The Jordanian position, Petra quoted the King as saying, is based on the united Arab stand reached during the extraordinary Arab summit held in Amman last November. The summit renewed the Arab call for a United Nations-sponsored international conference on the Middle East.

(Continued on page 5)

Missile attacks, air raids continue unabated in spiralling 'war of cities'

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iran said Wednesday that Iraqi missiles crashed into Tehran, killing 35 people, on the 10th day of a long-range missile duel. Iraq said Baghdad residents died when a missile wrecked homes and stores.

A Soviet official acknowledged his country had furnished Iraq with missiles but said their range was too short to strike Iranian cities and that they were not supposed to be modernised. In the Gulf, shipping officials confirmed that Iraqi warplanes Tuesday attacked the Cypriot-flagged, 101,977-ton tanker Felicity, breaking a three-week lull in the "tanker war."

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said Iraq fired two missiles at Tehran. Iran's Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) said 35 people were killed and 120 wounded Wednesday and in another missile raid the night before.

Iran said it fired two missiles into Baghdad, Iraq said only one missile exploded in the city, demolishing houses and stores, "killing or wounding numbers of civilians."

Iran claims to have fired 25 missiles into Baghdad and several into other Iraqi cities since the exchange began Feb. 29. Iraq has reported firing 47 missiles into Tehran and five into other cities. The death toll in Tehran mounted to 157 killed and more than 420 wounded. Iraq has reported "many civilian casualties" since the tit-for-tat began but given no figures.

Iran's Prime Minister Mir Hossein Mousavi welcomed a Soviet proposal for an urgent meeting of the U.N. Security Council to end the tit-for-tat attacks. "The Soviet proposal is positive, and if the Security Council does not take a decision it would show their ill intentions towards us," Mousavi told Tehran Radio.

(Continued on page 5)



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(Continued on page 5)

Afghanistan rejects U.S., Pakistani demands

GENEVA (R) — Afghan Foreign Minister Abdul Wakil said Wednesday there was no question of agreeing to a U.S. demand that Moscow cut off military supplies to Kabul as part of an agreement to secure a Soviet troop withdrawal. Wakil, the chief Afghan delegate to U.N. talks on his country, also ruled out discussions in Geneva on the formation of a new government.

Pakistan and the Afghan guerrilla groups insist that a coalition replace the Soviet-backed Kabul regime. Afghanistan has always received the assistance of the Soviet Union and it will continue to receive it even after the withdrawal of the Soviet troops. Wakil told a news conference during the second week of indirect talks with Pakistan.

He indicated that the issues of cutting off supplies from Moscow and the formation of an interim government were leading to stalemate. But he said he was willing to remain at the talks as long as it took to get an agreement, even past the March 15 deadline set by Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev. Gorbachev said Soviet troops could begin withdrawing May 15 if accord were reached by March 15 in Geneva.

The United States, not formally part of the talks, has made its support for rebels fighting the Afghan government clear and declared that if it were to stop aiding them, Moscow would have to make a "symmetrical" end to its supplies to Kabul.

(Continued on page 5)

Bush sweeps 'Super Tuesday' primaries

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Vice-President George Bush stood within reach of the Republican presidential nomination Wednesday after engineering a clean sweep of "Super Tuesday" primaries.

Senator Albert Gore, meanwhile, emerged as a new force in the Democratic race by splitting the vote in the south with Michael Dukakis and Jesse Jackson. But Dukakis, governor of the north-eastern state of Massachusetts, remained the leader of the Democratic pack by winning the big southern states of Florida and Texas.

More than 11 million voters participated in Super Tuesday contests in 14 southern and border states and seven other locales, from Hawaii to American Samoa. It was the biggest test yet in the U.S. presidential campaign, with nearly one third of the delegates to the party nominating conventions at stake.

Results and candidate interviews were broadcast live throughout the country. "This is a big, major political victory," a jubilant Bush told supporters Tuesday night. "I'm going to be the next president of the United States."

His main rival for the Republican nomination, Sen. Robert Dole, looked ahead to next Tuesday's primary in Illinois, in hopes that the large midwestern state could salvage his campaign. "This is going to be Bob Dole's recovery state," he said. "It's going to be the turnaround state."

Bush routed his opponents to win 16 of the 17 Republican primaries and netted two-thirds of the delegates he needs to capture his party's presidential nomination in August.

On the Democratic side, Dukakis took a narrow lead, capturing eight states including populous, delegate-rich Texas and Florida, his home state of Massachusetts, Idaho and Washington state.

But Tuesday's contest — the biggest such test in U.S. primary election history — saw the emergence of Gore as a major Democratic contender and a strong showing by black civil rights leader Jackson.

Gore captured five states in his native south as well as Nevada, and Jackson also won five states in the south.

This made the Democratic contest very close as attention turned to next week's Illinois primary balloting. Dukakis predicted a tough race that would not be decided until

the California and New Jersey primaries June 7.

Super Tuesday spelled disaster for Republican Pat Robertson and Democrat Richard Gephardt. Both were teetering on the verge of elimination after rejection in state after state.

New York congressman Jack Kemp, who fared poorest in the Republican voting, was a likely prospect to pull out. He was meeting with advisers to see if there was any point in continuing his campaign. He got no better than seven per cent of the vote in any of Tuesday's primaries.

All of the Republican candidates claim they will be the most true to the policies of President Ronald Reagan, whose popularity remains especially high in the south. But Bush benefitted most from his close association with Reagan.

U.S. secures strong Chinese support for arms embargo on Iran

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The United States says it has secured strong Chinese support for a U.N. arms embargo against Iran to force compliance with a Security Council resolution demanding a ceasefire in the nearly eight-year-old Gulf war.

White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said the support was offered by Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian during a meeting with President Ronald Reagan Tuesday.

He said Wu told Reagan that China was very concerned about the course of the war, which in

recent weeks has seen Iran and Iraq launch deadly missile attacks on each other's cities.

Fitzwater said Reagan stressed the need for decisive action to end the war and Wu had replied that China would favour an Iran arms embargo "if the overwhelming majority of the Security

Council believes that it should be adopted."

The phrasing of Wu's statement was not seen as a qualified endorsement of an arms embargo, the White House official said.

"It was our reaction, the president's reaction, that this was a very positive sign, a very strong expression of support, and one that frankly we hope the Soviet Union would emulate," Fitzwater said.

The United States and Britain have been pressing the other permanent members of the Security Council — China, France and the Soviet Union — to agree to a draft resolution calling for a ban on arms sales to Iran to back up last July's ceasefire order, which Tehran has not accepted unequivocally.

Baghdad has said it would accept the ceasefire if Tehran also complies, but Iran has insisted that blame for the war be established before it would accept the order.

Posing for pictures with Wu, Reagan said Tuesday, "We have a very cordial relationship between our two countries, and we want to continue it."

Wu indicated Chinese officials were "very concerned about how the war was going, concerned about the recent attacks on the cities in Iraq and Iran," Fitzwater said.

The foreign minister urged "comprehensive implementation" of the ceasefire resolution, prompting Reagan to say that "decisive action" also was needed on the arms-embargo measure, Fitzwater said.

In response, Wu said that "if the overwhelming majority of the Security Council believed it should be adopted, including the arms embargo, that they are in favour, that there was no difficulty on their part in terms of that second resolution."

Fitzwater said while the Kremlin has been generally supportive on the arms embargo issue, it had not come through "with the kind of direct support that would allow us to go ahead."



EVERY TRICK IN THE BOOK: An Israeli soldier uses force, a temporarily disabling chemical agent which causes tears, dizziness, immobilisation and sometimes nausea, against Palestinian women staging a march Tuesday in Ramallah to mark International Women's Day.

Reagan's Jewish advisers upset over senators' letter

WASHINGTON (AP) — An organisation formed to advise President Ronald Reagan on Jewish matters lashed out Tuesday at 30 senators who wrote a letter supporting the administration's position that it is time for Israel to exchange land for peace.

The group, known as the National Jewish Coalition, said the senators "operated in haste" and were "inserting themselves into the internal politics of Israel."

The group issued its statement after a meeting in the Oval Office with Reagan. However, Richard Fox, chairman of the organisation, said the president did not discuss the peace process or the violence in the Israeli-occupied territories.

He said the meeting with Reagan lasted only 12 or 13 minutes and the president's comments were "really more of a ceremonial statement. There was no forum for discussion of the issue."

The coalition, formed after the 1984 election, is comprised of

Jewish Republicans.

On Monday, the White House had said it welcomed the senators' statement, in which they criticised Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and his Likud Party, suggesting they may be blocking efforts to reach a peace settlement in the Middle East.

Asked about that letter, Fox said: "Our belief is that those distinguished senators — all of whom are friends of Israel — operated in haste."

He complained that they based their criticism on a report in the New York Times "rather than direct statements from the prime minister." The letter had said the senators were dismayed to read in the newspaper that Shamir had opposed giving up any territory, saying, "this expression of territory for peace is not accepted by me."

Fox said the senators "are dealing in an area which is very sensitive at this time and essentially inserting themselves into the internal politics of Israel."

Freed Oxfam official to remain in S. Lebanon

SIDON (Agencies) — British relief official Peter Coleridge said Wednesday that he and a Syrian aide, freed by Palestinians who held them for six days, would stay in Sidon to complete an inspection tour of relief operations.

"We'll stay in Sidon for a few days to continue our interrupted mission," Coleridge, 44, told the AP.

Asked about his plans, he said: "I won't disclose my travel plans for security reasons."

Palestinian guerrillas of Abu Nidal's Fateh-Revolutionary Council (FRC) released Coleridge and Omar Trabulsi, 31, Oxfam's Lebanon representative, in the southern port city of Sidon Tuesday.

In Washington, the State Department issued a strong warning Tuesday against Americans travelling in Lebanon.

HOME BRIEFS

AJLOUNI: Minister of Tourism Zuhair Al Ajlouni Wednesday discussed with Yugoslav Ambassador in Amman Zoran Popovic bilateral cooperation especially in tourism. Also Wednesday the minister discussed with the Czechoslovak Charge d'Affaires in Amman Emil Hrusovsky cooperation in tourism.

NO SMOKING DAY: The Jordanian National Society for Combating Smoking has praised a World Health Organisation (WHO) call on world nations to observe April 7 as a no-smoking day. Society President Dr. Zuhair Malhas said that it was an excellent initiative, clearly urging people to give up this harmful habit. Jordan is among 13 nations whose national societies had voiced support for the WHO decision.

HOMES COLLAPSE: A number of old homes and retaining walls in Taffieh collapsed during the past two days due to continuous rain fall. A public safety committee met Wednesday and decided to embark on immediate work to repair the roads, and heard requests from the public about other repair work.

JUSTICE TALKS: The Cabinet Wednesday formed Jordan's delegation to the Arab Justice Ministers conferences, which will be held in Kuwait on April 2. Jordan's delegation to the conference will be led by Justice Minister Riyadh Al Shaka'a.

SCHOOL EXAMS: Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Thouman Al Hindawi has fixed June 19 as the date for taking the admission exams to the secondary cycle at all schools throughout the country. Applications for the exams can be obtained as of March 15 through March 31.

JAIL SENTENCE: The military court has sentenced Hanna Jamil Abdullah Ibrahim to six months in prison for embezzling public funds. The military governor endorsed the sentence.

Papoulias denies reports of rift in Athens over Turkey

ATHENS (AP) — Foreign Minister Carlos Papoulias has denied reports of dissent among senior ministry officials over Premier Andreas Papandreu's recent efforts to improve relations with Turkey.

"I categorically state that there is no disagreement, between the political leadership of the Foreign Ministry or between me and any other cabinet member," Papoulias said.

Papoulias spoke at a news conference Tuesday with deputy foreign ministers Theodoros Pangalos and Yiannis Karpas.

The three officials held the briefing after widespread reports of dissent within the Foreign Ministry following Papandreu's meeting with Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal after the NATO summit in Brussels last week.

The two leaders agreed to further improve relations and seek permanent solutions to their countries' problems. The two quarrelling NATO allies have

longstanding disputes over military control of the Aegean and over Cyprus.

But relations have been steadily improving since the two leaders met for the first time in Davos, Switzerland, at the end of January.

Reports of disagreement over the rapprochement between the two countries surfaced last week when the government announced that Papoulias had cancelled trips to France and West Germany because of "illness."

"Despite the denials, you insisted, I want to say that I am sick," Papoulias told reporters. A failure to cancel would have resulted in serious damage to his health.

The foreign minister said Papandreu's meetings with Ozal were "not a solution" to Greece's problems with Turkey but "attempts to open a new road in Greek-Turkish relations and create a new climate."

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 73111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

14:00 Koran
14:20 Programme review
14:25 Children programmes
14:30 Mop and Smiff
14:45 Soccer: Iraq vs. UAE (Live transmission)
17:15 Wonderful World of Magic
17:35 French teaching programme
18:00 Men and Machine
18:30 Arabic series
19:05 Health and Life (local)
19:35 World News Reports
19:50 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:30 Review of next week's programmes
22:00 Arabic film
22:30 News summary in Arabic
23:10 Closed down

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Rue Carnot
18:30 La chance aux chansons
19:00 News in French
19:15 French Varieties
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Kate and Allie
21:10 Rags to Riches
22:00 News in English
22:30 Feature film: "Continental Divide"

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM & partly on 950 KHz. SW
Tel: 73111-19

07:00

Light Music
Newsweek
Morning Show
News Summary
Morning Show Cont.
Country Music
Hillsville: The story of Motown
News Bulletin
Now Music
News Summary
Pop Session
News Bulletin
Instrumentals
My Music
Concert Hour
News Summary
Instrumentals
Old Favourites
Hillsville: The story of Motown
Pop Session
News Summary
Our Mutual Friend

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* Art exhibition by Mahmoud Taha at Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts (runs through 14/3/1988).

* Book exhibition at the Comprehensive Commercial Centre (Tower Building), Jabal Amman, 3rd Circle (permanent).

* Exhibition entitled "La terre entre vos mains" at the French Cultural Centre (until March 17).

* Islamic book exhibition at Yarmouk University in Irbid (until March 14).

* Exhibition of photos about Woodcut and typesetting in Germany at Mu'ta University in Karak (until March 15).

* Book exhibition at Arabian Club, Irbid (runs through March 17).

* "Fifth Caricature Exhibition," works of the late Naji Al Ali at Hussein Camp Youth Activities Centre.

* Mobile Photographic Exhibition, by Photography and Cinema Club, Yarmouk University, at Huswara Community College (runs through March 10).

ENGLISH TEACHERS' EVENING

* English Teachers' Evening about classroom management with Mrs. Margaret Matthews at 5:00 p.m. Thursday at the British Centre.

FILMS

* "Come si vogliono le principesse" (Italian) at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at Haya Arts Centre.

* "The Hustler" at 7:00 p.m. Thursday at the American Centre.

* "La mort en re Jordan" at 5:00 p.m. Thursday at the Spanish Cultural Centre.

SERVICE CLUBS

The Amman Lions Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Regency Palace Hotel, 7:30 p.m. Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m. Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m. Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2:00 p.m. Royal Automobile Club. Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 816534, 817524.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 625990. Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luweideh, Tel. 637440.

De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Terrazas Church (Roman Catholic), Jabal Luweideh, mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel. 622266.

Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abadi, Tel. 623541. Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, Tel. 623530. chapel's residence, tel. 601359. Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Ashrafieh, Tel. 771331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 775281.

St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, Tel. 771751. Amman International Church (Interdenominational) meet at Southern Baptist School in Shmeitan, Tel. 677534.

Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church of the Good Shepherd) Amman, Ashrafieh, Sunday 7 p.m. Rev. N. Smir, tel. 811265.

Rainbow Congregation (meets at the Good Shepherd's Church, Interdenominational ecumenical English Service: Saturday 6:30 p.m. tel. 822065, Rev. Veli.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormon) Tel. 815817, 821264.

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06) 533045, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)
09:15 Agaba (RJ)
09:30 Cairo (MS)
09:40 Kuwait (KU)
09:40 Riyadh (SV)
09:40 Jeddah (RJ)
09:50 Dhahran (RJ)
09:55 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:00 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:15 Zurich, Lucerne (SR)
10:20 Amsterdam (KLM)
10:35 Cairo (MS)
10:45 Bucharest, Romania (RJ)
10:45 Rome (RJ)
10:55 Baghdad (AF)
06:25 London, Cairo (BA)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

12:05 Cairo (MS)
12:10 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)
13:00 Kuwait (KU)
13:40 Istanbul, Ankara (TK)
15:00 Riyadh (SV)
15:00 Baghdad (AF)
15:20 Amsterdam (KLM)
16:35 Cairo (MS)
16:45 Frankfurt (LH)
17:05 Zurich, Lucerne (SR)
17:15 Paris (AF)
06:25 London, Cairo (BA)

DEPARTURES

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)
07:00 Agaba (RJ)
07:30 Jeddah (RJ)
08:30 Larnaca, Athens (RJ)
08:45 Rome (RJ)
12:00 Frankfurt, London (RJ)
12:15 Brussels, Paris (RJ)
19:35 Kuwait (RJ)
19:45 Dubai (RJ)
19:50 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
19:55 Baghdad (RJ)
20:00 Jeddah (RJ)
20:15 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
21:30 Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ)
22:00 Bangkok (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

06:20 Frankfurt (LH)
06:30 Cairo (MS)
06:40 Riyadh (SV)
06:40 Kuwait (KU)
06:40 Jeddah (RJ)
06:40 Dhahran (RJ)
06:40 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
06:40 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
06:40 Zurich, Lucerne (SR)
06:40 Amsterdam (KLM)
06:40 Cairo (MS)
06:40 Bucharest, Romania (RJ)
06:40 Rome (RJ)
06:40 Baghdad (AF)
06:40 London, Cairo (BA)

PRAYER TIMES

12:50 Cairo (MS)
13:45 Bahrain, Doha, Abu Dhabi (GF)
15:00 Kuwait (KU)
15:30 Ankara, Istanbul (TK)
16:30 Baghdad (AF)
16:40 Riyadh (SV)
17:05 Cairo (MS)
20:00 Sana'a (LH)
22:05 Baghdad (AF)

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local sell/buy rates in Jds
Belgian franc 35.9 / 37.9
Dutch guilder 178.5 / 181.7
French franc 66.2 / 67.2
Italian lira 27.2 / 27.6
Japanese yen (100) 261.4 / 266.1
Swedish crown 56.7 / 57.4
Swiss franc 242.6 / 246.8
U.K. sterling pound 614.1 / 625.8
U.S. dollar 35.3 / 36.3
W. German mark 200.5 / 204

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
It will be cloudy with chances of thunder showers and decrease in temperature during the day. In Agaba, it will be partly cloudy and hazy with northerly wind changing to westerly freshening and rough seas.

Min./max. temp.
Amman 5 / 11
Agaba 9 / 18
Deserts 6 / 14
Jordan Valley 9 / 17
Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 13, Agaba 22. Humidity readings: Amman 45 per cent, Agaba 27 per cent.

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06) 533045, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)
09:15 Agaba (RJ)
09:30 Cairo (MS)
09:40 Kuwait (KU)
09:40 Riyadh (SV)
09:40 Jeddah (RJ)
09:50 Dhahran (RJ)
09:55 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:00 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:15 Zurich, Lucerne (SR)
10:20 Amsterdam (KLM)
10:35 Cairo (MS)
10:45 Bucharest, Romania (RJ)
10:45 Rome (RJ)
10:55 Baghdad (AF)
06:25 London, Cairo (BA)

DEPARTURES

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)
07:00 Agaba (RJ)
07:30 Jeddah (RJ)
08:30 Larnaca, Athens (RJ)
08:45 Rome (RJ)
12:00 Frankfurt, London (RJ)
12:15 Brussels, Paris (RJ)
19:35 Kuwait (RJ)
19:45 Dubai (RJ)
19:50 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
19:55 Baghdad (RJ)
20:00 Jeddah (RJ)
20:15 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
21:30 Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ)
22:00 Bangkok (RJ)

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Amman governorate 691228
Amman Civil Defence 198, 199
Civil Defence (Irbid) 271233, 273131
Civil Defence (Zarqa) 707233
Civil Defence Deira Alla 57306
Ambulance 193, 775111
Amman downtown fire brigade 198
Police Headquarters 630241
Police (Agaba) 641714
Police (Irbid) 661111
Fire Headquarters 622090-3
Police (Zarqa) 192, 62111, 637777
Traffic police 896391
Electric Power Co. 636381/4, 624881
Municipal water complaints 771258
Queen Alia Int'l. Airport (06) 533040

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Walid Masri 675483
Dr. Isam Hawamdeh 634530
Dr. A. L. 890446
Dr. Khalid Msa'adi 743500
Firas pharmacy 661912
Fekri's pharmacy 778336
Al-Jasem pharmacy 637055
Nawrah pharmacy 632672
Al-Balad pharmacy 636730
Yaroub pharmacy 644945
Suraesam pharmacy 637660

TAXIS

Talal taxi 640031
Venice taxi 644584
Asfour taxi 623230
Touma taxi 813581
Nabata taxi 636033
Holiday Inn taxi 663100
Sayed taxi 604422
Middle East taxi 604615

HOSPITALS

IBRD:
Dr. Maren Abu Baker (—)
Sharaf pharmacy 275825
ZARQA:
Dr. Mufid Dhamra 989552
Khalil pharmacy 985417

GENERAL

Jordan Television 73111/19
Radio Jordan 77411/19
Ministry of Tourism 642311
Tourist complaints 664112
Price complaints 661176
Telephone Information 12
Jordan and Middle East calls 10
Overseas calls 17
Repair service 11

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in Jds per kg.
Apple (French) 420 / 440
Apple (green) 420 / 440
Banana 350 / 360
Banana (Mukammal) 300 / 340
Beans 550 / 550
Beans (broad) 280 / 280
Cabbage 220 / 260
Carrot 260 / 230
Cauliflower (white) 160 / 120
Cucumbers 250 / 230
Dates (box) 700 / 600
Eggplant (large) 220 / 160
Garlic 150 / 100
Grapefruit 230 / 140

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

09:30 Cairo (RJ)
09:40 Jeddah (RJ)
09:50 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:00 Paris (RJ)
10:00 Zurich, Lucerne (SR)
10:15 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)
10:20 Amsterdam (KLM)
10:35 Cairo (RJ)
10:45 Bucharest, Romania (RJ)
10:45 Rome (RJ)
10:55 Baghdad (AF)
06:25 London, Cairo (BA)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

06:20 Frankfurt (LH)
06:30 Cairo (MS)
06:40 Riyadh (SV)
06:40 Kuwait (KU)
06:40 Jeddah (RJ)
06:40 Dhahran (RJ)
06:40 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
06:40 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
06:40 Zurich, Lucerne (SR)
06:40 Amsterdam (KLM)
06:40 Cairo (MS)
06:40 Bucharest, Romania (RJ)
06:40 Rome (RJ)
06:40 Baghdad (AF)
06:40 London, Cairo (BA)

FOR FRIDAY

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 73111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

10:00 Koran
10:20 Programme review
10:30 Rainbow Rite
10:50 Cartoons and Children programmes
11:20 Religious series
12:30 Friday's prayer
14:30 Sport magazine
14:40 Art and Crafts
15:25 Vengere
16:45 Arabic Comedy
17:15 Believe It or Not
18:05 News reports
18:30 Viewer's choice (Arabic)
19:20 Local programme
19:50 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 A programme on the West Bank

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* Art exhibition by Mahmoud Taha at Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts (runs through 14/3/1988).

* Book exhibition at the Comprehensive Commercial Centre (Tower Building), Jabal Amman, 3rd Circle (permanent).

* Exhibition entitled "La terre entre vos mains" at the French Cultural Centre (until March 17).

* Islamic book exhibition at Yarmouk University in Irbid (until March 14).

* Exhibition of photos about Woodcut and typesetting in Germany at Mu'ta University in Karak (until March 15).

* Book exhibition at Arabian Club, Irbid (runs through March 17).

* "Fifth Caricature Exhibition," works of the late Naji Al Ali at Hussein Camp Youth Activities Centre.

* Mobile Photographic Exhibition, by Photography and Cinema Club, Yarmouk University, at Huswara Community College (runs through March 10).

Environmentalists warn of threat to Azraq Oasis

By Sana Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Azraq Oasis, a haven for many species of migrating birds and a green landscape in the middle of the desert, "is on its way to full destruction and will disappear in a matter of a couple of years if the government continues to pump such huge amounts of water from the lakes," Anis Muasher, president of the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN) warned Wednesday.

Muasher said that 15 million cubic metres of water a year is sucked out of the oasis for Amman, and 8 million cubic metres a year is taken out for farming.

"The maximum limit of water that the Azraq oasis can give is only 16 million cubic metres per year. So seven million cubic metres more water is taken than the oasis can handle," Muasher said during a press conference.

He revealed that the society has appealed to the government a number of times to decrease the amount of water that is being used to supply the cities. Muasher added that he provided the government with alternative water sources and logical solutions that can be implemented, where there would be enough water for consumers without affecting nature. "But the government has not yet taken action merely because it is less costly in the short term."

"A certain amount of money is being saved now, but in the near future hundreds of millions of dinars will be wasted when the Azraq (oasis) disappears," Muasher predicted.

"We don't appreciate the goodness of the Azraq now, but when we lose it we will cry over it just like we cried over the loss of Jerusalem," Muasher added.

RSCN Vice-President Laila said that the society has been lobbying against the pumping of large amounts of water from the Azraq for some time. "When we scream about it in the beginning, we are heard. Then as the echo dies down, we are no longer heard," Sharaf commented.

International conservation convention

Sharaf said that the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) had held a large convention in February in Costa Rica, in which Jordan participated along with 92 other countries and 1,000 individuals.

She said the convention, entitled "Conservation for Sustainable Development — A Shared Responsibility," tackled important points of development and protection of nature, especially in developing countries where the two usually clash.

Muasher said that one of the major topics discussed during the 10-day conference was how to take the advantage of natural resources for development purposes without exhausting them for the future.

He cited the Wadi Dhiail project as an example: "Water was taken from Wadi Dhiail for twenty to thirty years until we lost it forever. This is an example for a non-sustainable project. Like the Azraq, which should be a very important tourist site. We take more from its water than it can give. We're losing its beauty, the salination is increasing, and therefore the plants around the reservoirs are dying and the migrating birds decreasing."

Muasher said the conference suggested that with international support, the IUCN must first approve any project before implementation, to make sure that the environment is not affected.

He continued to say that the conference also discussed the rapid population growth and its effect on the environment.

"Population in the Third World is increasing faster than the economic rate and therefore poverty increases. Pressure of poverty forces the use of natural resources until destruction — such as in Africa where they use them as forms of energy. But when nature loses its resources, it creates more sickness and poverty," Muasher said.

He added that the main aim of population control is to improve the standard of life for individuals. That measure must be taken to control the population growth, apart from exceptional cases where political implications are strong, such as the occupied territories."

Extinction of wildlife

Another issue discussed at the conference, according to Muasher, is the extinction of wildlife and the threatened species of animals and plants "that are very important to the order of life and beneficial to mankind."

"The flies in the Jordan Valley, for example, can be destroyed without polluting the environment with certain types of birds that eat flies; so we cannot allow such birds to become extinct," he explained.

Awad Al Tal, secretary-general of the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment, and who headed the Jordanian delegation at the international conference, said that there are still no laws concerning the preservation of nature and environment.

He added that he hoped there would be more coordination between all ministries involved with issues concerning the environment, in order to put forth a plan to the government to protect nature and natural resources.

Jerash committee closes service stations, dairy plants

By Marwan Shabih
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Cultural Committee of the Young Women's Christian Association (YMCA), Saturday presents a folkloric evening in cooperation with Yusra Arnita and Widad Kawar, both prominent figures in the promotion of Arab heritage. This will be the first time that a combination of popular folkloric music and traditional costumes are presented in their social and geographical context.

The evening, which is entitled, "Thowb And Song," is the first of its kind in its combination of themes, each of which is an essential part of the strong fabric of cultural continuity in this part of the world.

Arnita and Kawar have established landmarks in creating and encouraging an awareness of Arab cultural heritage in Jordan, and thus were instrumental in the production of this programme.

The show is produced by Nader Omran while Miss Bassma Abu Jabr will present a slide show of the scenic Holy Land.

Arnita has been researching on Arabic music, specifically folk songs, since the late 1950s. She has now documented a collection of rare and authentic folk songs. Many of the songs will be heard by a public audience for the first time Saturday evening.

The American University of Beirut (AUB) had given Arnita a grant to do the research, which also resulted in the publication of a book "Folklore of Palestine — an annotation of 100 songs." The book is currently out of print, but Arnita is working on a reprint and an English translation.

At present Arnita works for the Noor Al Hussein Foundation, where she is researching on introduction of a curriculum of Arabic music for the National Music Conservatory.

Preserving Arab heritage
Kawar has been collecting tra-

ditional Palestinian and Jordanian costumes for over 30 years. Her goal is to maintain and preserve this aspect of the Arab heritage, as well as to create awareness and pride in this rich heritage. Her private collection which consists of more than 300 costumes has been the subject of a book on Palestinian costumes printed in Japan, countless articles in both the local and international press, as well as a detailed catalogue of costumes and jewelry of Palestine and Jordan published in West Germany.

A large part of Kawar's costume and jewellery collection is currently on display at the Rautenstrauch-Joest-Museum in Köln and will be on display in Paris this summer.

The major theme of Saturday's production will be to show the association of the different songs and dresses to their places of origin, and their different social occasions, whether marriages or funerals, or in cities, towns or villages.

The show will begin with a wedding scene from Ramallah in the occupied territories and end with a scene of city life, where the models will display "city costumes" from all the cities in Jordan and Palestine. Over forty songs and thirty costumes will be presented to make what should be a most entertaining folkloric evening.

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Agents, ministry blamed for irregularities in drug imports

Pharmacies selling expired medicine

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A random survey by the Jordan Times of 23 pharmacies in Amman has identified at least 26 brands of imported medicines that do not carry manufacturing or expiry dates — in violation of established international drug control regulations.

The survey, conducted over the past several weeks, showed that despite a clear ban on the sale of any brand of medicine without both the manufacturing and expiry dates stamped on the product, all 23 surveyed pharmacies were found to possess medicine that does not comply with the specifications.

Only two of those pharmacies kept the unmarked medicine off their shelves with the intention of returning it to the drug agent. The 21 other pharmacies said they sold the unmarked medicine because they were assured by either the drug agent or the ministry or both that the unmarked medicine was good for use through 1988.

The Jordan Times obtained a copy of a Health Ministry circular distributed to pharmacies in which it sanctioned the sale of unmarked medicines through 1988. The circular was signed by the ministry's director of pharmacies and drug control on behalf of the minister.

The list of unmarked drugs included medicine for heart disease, hormones, eye drops and vitamins. According to American and British regulations, which are enforced in Jordan, such medicine was dangerous to human consumption and should be withdrawn from the market and destroyed.

According to pharmacists and Health Ministry officials, the absence of a manufacturing date and expiry date on a particular medicine makes it impossible for the pharmacist or the consumer to know whether the medicine is expired or still valid.

Pharmacists who sold the unmarked medicines told the Jordan Times that very few people hesitated to buy unmarked drugs after they were assured that the ministry sanctioned their sale through 1988.

Ministry denies reports

The Health Ministry said that reports of unmarked medicine in the Jordanian market were "unfounded and exaggerated."

Drugs in Jordan must, in principle, comply with the British and American pharmacopoeia — drug regulations which impose limits on the active ingredients of drugs as well as the manufacturing and expiry dates.

The expiry of a drug results in a degradation in the quality of the medicine, and could produce derivatives that have harmful effect on the consumer, according to an expert in the field who asked not to be further identified. "After a certain period of time, the drug goes through a process of decomposition and disintegration of the ingredients," according to the expert.

Storage condition also play an important role in maintaining the effectiveness of the drug's ingredients.

"Storage conditions could result in the instability of the pro-

duct," the expert said, pointing out that "it is the responsibility of the drug quality control laboratory to supervise storage conditions."

One pharmacist who complained about unmarked medicine said he was able to convince the drug agent to withdraw his unmarked product from his pharmacy, "only after I began to make noises about it."

Another problem with drug quality control is that some drug manufacturing companies are not being checked "because they are famous and very well known." One pharmacist, who asked not to be identified, said that some drug agents were importing drugs from companies that may be counterfeiting medicines of another well known manufacturing company, and selling their products to Jordanian agents for a cheaper price.

Drugs without dates

The list of drugs without manufacturing or expiry dates included: Primoteston (a hormone), Methergin, Digifar, Isutan, Primodan, Lidothesis, Donaran, Solcohepsyl, Semori, Viru-Merz, Primosiston, Gravibinan, Novesin, Tanderil, Cedilanid, Acabel (antispasmodic), Lanicor, Dioxin (for heart disease), Spiroctan, Clauden, Isophtine-s (ophthalmic ointment), Verapamil (anti-hypertensive), Cedilamide, Lantosside (a digitalis extract used for cardiac failure), Tromantidine Hydrochloride Acetamide Hydrochloride (for herpes).

All these products are manufactured abroad and imported by drug agents in Jordan. The manufacturing companies include Knoll AG, Grünenthal, Mannheim Boehringer, Natterman, Dispersa, Luitpold — Werk München, Sandoz S.A., Dispersa, Schering AG, Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Company, Leo Pharmaceutical Products, Slegfried Ltd. and Merz Pharma.

There was no way to immediately ascertain that the unmarked medicine was produced by the above companies themselves.

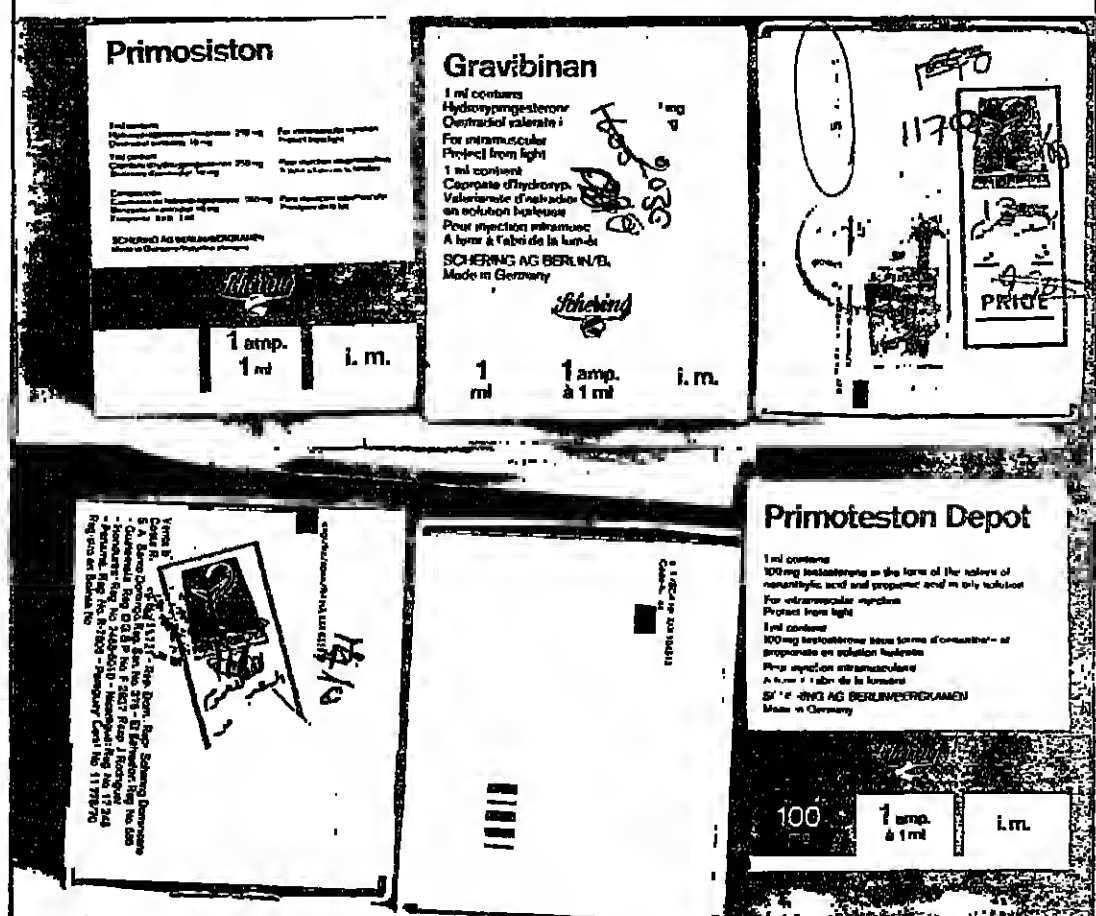
Some of the medicines have the manufacturing and expiry dates stamped on them by a regular office stamp, one pharmacist said. It is definitely not the manufacturer's stamp... it is a different kind of ink."

When complaints about allegedly expired drugs reached the Ministry of Health, the answer was that concerned British authorities had authorised the sale of these medicines in the market for five years — through 1988.

"We should be very careful here," the drug expert told the Jordan Times. "The question is, when do we start counting these five years? We don't know how long these medicines stayed in storage in the country of origin, how they were shipped, and how



Samples of medicines without manufacturing or expiry dates, and some without a batch number, available in the Jordan Times, some of the unmarked medicines in the photographs (primoteston depot) carries the manufacturing date of May, 1975, clearly expired but in circulation. Notice the several hand-written changes of the price on the label, indicating how old the medicine has been on shelves. According to documents made available to the Jordan Times, some of the unmarked medicines were only recently registered by the Ministry of Health. (The medicines in the pictures are shown photographed from both sides to show the absence of manufacturing and expiry dates required by international regulation.)



long they have been stored here in Jordan."

Drugs from 1975

The expert said that there exists in circulation, medicines manufactured as far back as 1975. The expert showed the Jordan Times a sample bought late last year.

Furthermore, the expert added, storage conditions in Britain are much more favourable than in Jordan. "The weather in England is much cooler and storage conditions are generally better. Our weather conditions are different."

The expert explained that sunlight, high temperatures and humidity have a negative effect on medicine ingredients, mainly

by shortening the medicine's life span. "What remains good for five years in England does not necessarily remain good through five years in Jordan," the expert said. "All this notwithstanding, medicine without manufacturing and expiry dates should be banned to begin with."

Some of the medicine checked by the Jordan Times did not have a batch number, which would be another way to detect the manufacturing date of the drug.

In at least two incidents, the agent of the unmarked drug was found to be a member of the ministry's Technical Committee for Drug Control which sanctions drug imports into Jordan, and a former president of the Jordan Pharmacists Association.

Ministry of Health sources said there had been calls for dissolving the Technical Committee and changing the law so that members of the committee do not have a direct personal interest in medicines imported into the country. "This will guarantee honest and impartial decisions" by the nine-member committee.

The sources said there are at least three drug agents on the ministry's Technical Committee and that a fourth member of the committee is married to a drug agent.

Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh, and the ministry's Director General of the Department of Pharmacies and Drug Control Director General Hussam Eddin Musmar, could not be reached for comment.

Expatriates conference to open on July 11

AMMAN (Petra) — The fourth Jordanian Expatriates Conference will open in Amman on July 11, according to an official announcement Tuesday.

The director of the Ministry of Labour's Expatriates Department Azmi Al Muhtaseh said that a committee has been formed to prepare for the coming conference which will discuss social, economic housing and other issues of concern to the expatri-

ates, and means for enhancing their links with their country.

He said this year, the conference will be entitled "The Expatriate and Homeland Development," and will direct most of its attention and deliberations towards investments by expatriates in the Kingdom.

The announcement about the conference coincided with the return to Amman of a delegation, which had toured the United

Arab Emirates, to orient Jordanian expatriates there on prospects of owning homes in the Kingdom.

The delegation, grouping the Housing Bank, the Housing Corporation, the Ministry of Tourism, the Urban Development Department and representatives of 35 local investment, real estate and housing companies, held exhibitions in Dubai and Abu Dhabi.

150-room hotel at Ma'in Spa opens

AMMAN (Petra + J.T.) — A 150-room hotel built at the Zarqa Ma'in Spa complex south of here is now open for the public and tourist groups from Jordan and foreign countries, according to an announcement by the spa management.

The Ishtar Hotel has adjoining, integrated therapeutic facilities within a complex that includes

chalets, swimming pools, tennis courts, playing grounds for children and other facilities, the announcement said.

In addition, the spa, which cost JD 14 million, has a shopping centre, three restaurants and a camping site that can accommodate 250 people.

There are 60 natural springs containing minerals beneficial for

patients suffering from rheumatism, sinusitis, arthritis and asthma.

The spa can be reached through a newly built highway from Madaba 30 kilometres south of Amman according to the announcement.

With the opening of the 150-bed hotel, the final stage of the complex has been completed.

Jordan Times

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Listen to your friends, Mr. Shamir

THE letter of 30 American senators to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, outlining their judgement that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's rejection of Shultz's recent Middle East peace plan has become the major obstacle to peace in the Middle East, stands out as a clear and intriguing signal from the U.S. to Israel that enough is enough. The fact that the senators are staunch supporters of Israel adds a new dimension to their complaint that Shamir and his Likud bloc are stonewalling and footdragging on the American initiative. There is no doubt that the senators were not only speaking for themselves, but also for their constituents, who are profoundly dismayed with Israel's continuous rejectionist attitudes towards practically all the peace ideas that were presented to them in the past, including those submitted by their closest friends and allies. In this sense, the letter of the senators is a reminder to Israel that all is not that well for it in the U.S., and that this manifestation of American irritation could grow, and awaken more Americans to the main fault in the elusive quest for peace in our region of the world.

The erosion in American support for Israel has obviously come as a result of the popular Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and as a consequence of Israel's brutal manhandling of the Palestinian people under occupation. It took an insurrection of this scale to drive home, in the U.S. and elsewhere in the world, the message that Israeli intransigence and lust for Arab territories was and still is the primary cause of the repeated tragedies that have befallen the land and people of Palestine. The Arab World has been at pains since the inception of the Palestine problem to portray Israel's belligerence and expansionist policies in the clearest possible terms. Now, at last, the American people and government are starting to see Israel as it really is. How this possible transformation in American perspectives towards the issues of war and peace in the Middle East can be translated into deeds and policy changes is now a pressing issue, and one that all of us in the Middle East should prod. Even the Israeli Labour Party hierarchy is in open revolt against Shamir and company. This should make the task of the U.S. and the other world powers that much easier, should they finally resort to some real pressure against Shamir.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: A model for Arabs

THERE is no doubt that the on-going contacts and consultations between Iraq and Jordan reflect the strong ties between their peoples which serve as a model for other Arab countries. The King's visit to Baghdad on Tuesday came to corroborate this fact and to further enhance the relationship between the two sister states in the face of common challenges on the eastern and the western flanks of the Arab World. The King's visit to Baghdad following a tour in Europe during which he discussed the Gulf war, and in view of the war of cities now going on between Iraq and Iran, assumes added importance. Jordan's support for Iraq in this war is as solid as ever, and stems from the brotherly ties between the two countries, and falls in line with the Amman summit relations and their spirit. The King's visit is a Jordanian expression of support at this time when the Iraqis continue to shed Iraqi civilian centres; and is a show of backing for Iraq's call for peace with Iran. What the Arabs need at this crucial moment is unity of ranks and support for one another in the face of common dangers in the occupied Palestine land and in the eastern flank where Iran continues to wage aggression on Arab territory. The Arabs must concert their steps and their actions to foil their enemies' plots which are directed at all parts of the Arab World.

Al Dustour: United against dangers

KING Hussein's visit to Baghdad comes at a crucial time when Iraq is facing continued acts of aggression from Iran, and is part of the ongoing consultations between the leaderships of Jordan and Iraq on all questions of concern to the Arab Nation. The visit and the talks with President Saddam Hussein are bound to further bolster bilateral ties and cooperation in all fields. The visit also marks one more stage in inter-Arab contacts designed to end a lasting settlement for the conflict. On the other hand, the visit follows in the wake of a tour in the Middle East by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz who discussed with the leaders of Middle East countries prospects for a settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict. The talks in Baghdad therefore revolve on the Gulf war and the Middle East question and means for enabling the Arabs to reach peace based on justice in both conflicts. The King's visit is also a clear expression of support for Iraq in its continued endeavour to repel aggression, and a further show of backing for the steadfast Iraqi people to defend their sacred soil. The continued visits manifest the strength of the Iraqi-Jordanian relations and a determination by the two leaderships to stand together in the face of adversity and common challenges.

Sawt Al Shaab: Exemplary ties

KING Hussein's visit to Baghdad is part of Jordan's continued policy of maintaining consultations with the Iraqi leader on matters of concern to Jordan and Iraq. The consultations are bound to bolster Jordan's ties with the Arab countries and enhance inter-Arab cooperation and joint action on the domestic and foreign levels. The visit is also bound to strengthen solidarity among Arabs at a time when the nation is confronted by an escalated aggression by Iran and stepped up oppression by Israel on the Palestinian people. The Arab Nation which seeks peace with Iran has voiced its condemnation of continued aggression on the Iraqi territory and demanded an implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 to bring peace to the Gulf region.

'Dialogue instead of the cycle of violence'

By Mamdouh Aker

IALOGUE concerning the Palestinian-Israeli conflict must deal with the root of the problem, while providing an opportunity for rational and realistic solutions. Our people's continuing uprising has to be understood as one special aspect of this dialogue. The proponents of dialogue must apply the principles of dialogue fairly both to themselves and to the other party.

When Israelis question whether Palestinians retain "a strong moral capacity to distinguish between rubber bullets directed against rioters and terrorists and live ammunition randomly fired on schoolchildren and civilian innocents," one hopes they are able to observe the same standards themselves. I question the moral capacity of those who sum up all that our people are doing in Gaza and the West Bank — conducting a popular uprising against the occupation in favour of freedom and independence — as simply "rioting and terrorism."

If calling for the national rights of the Palestinian people is terrorism, if the rejection of oppression is terrorism, then I am a terrorist. And all the prophets were terrorists. And David was a major terrorist when he became the most famous of all stone-throwers!

However, before they describe the Israel army as employing "mere rubber bullets," I would like my Israeli colleagues to visit just one of our hospitals, such as

the Maqassed Hospital on the Mount of Olives, to see the results of the army's actions at first hand. I would be glad to accompany a colleague or a delegation of the Israeli Medical Association on such a visit. I do this because I have full confidence in their conscience as physicians, as human beings and as Jews.

My colleague, Dr. Herzl Spiro, states that comparing the suffering of the Palestinian people to the suffering of the Jewish people indicates a moral insensitivity. Does this mean that suffering is a monopoly of the Jewish people, and that the suffering of all other peoples does not count?

Nonetheless, I respect and praise Israel's moral courage and objectivity when they state that "some of us think we have made mistakes, but only because we are human and we are fallible." But I do wish they would open their eyes more, and realise or admit how much our people have paid as a price for these "mistakes." Will they permit me to defend the mistakes of "some" of our people and make the same excuse by stating that we are also human and also fallible? Instead of trading accusations, let us try real dialogue.

Dialogue, in fact, offers both our peoples an excellent opportunity to undergo a well-known method of treatment practised in psychiatry: Permitting the patient an opportunity to express his thoughts, fears and frustrations in

order to be able to arrive at the root of the complex from which he suffers, and to bring it to the conscious mind.

Otherwise, such a complex will fester in the subconscious in a repressed fashion, resulting in all sorts of abnormal side-effects including violence.

It is neither healthy nor useful to continue to deny the existence of the Palestinian people or to deny our rights.

For a long period, the Palestinians did not exist in the Israeli consciousness. We were part of an amorphous Arab mass. Later the Palestinians began to appear in the Israeli consciousness: You identified us as "terrorists." Now, these same Palestinians are becoming more and more real to Israelis, who see them as "rioters" and "trouble-makers."

Israelis need to get even closer to the Palestinians in order to realise that it was the Israelis themselves who created the myth of the "terrorists" and the "rioters" as a method of avoiding confrontation with Palestinians and recognising them as human beings, as a people similar to other peoples with their own national rights.

This confrontation with reality and dealing with facts as they are includes for us, the Palestinians, the need to recognise Israel. It is a confrontation that our people continue to experience. Despite our daily hardships at the hands of Israel's occupying army, our

people are increasingly able to see the "other side" of the Israeli people: able to see beyond the military uniform the genuine commitment to universal values of somebody like criminologist Prof. Stan Cohen, when he points out that Israeli soldiers are committing obvious criminal offences.

And we can see the moral capacity of a mother like Carol Cook when she describes her two sons witnessing, during their current military service, the maltreatment of Arabs walking in the streets or in custody. I consider this, among many other manifestations, to be a healthy phenomenon.

Let us stop talking about dreams. Let us stop insisting that the other party adopt a new dream that is more consistent with our dream. As doctors, we do not deal with dreams, but with reality and with what is possible.

It is the right of the patient to dream, it is the right of all of us to dream, but when we seek treatment or solution we must not deal with dreams but with reality. Dreams have no limits and no boundaries.

Israeli Jews feel it necessary to express the continuity of the Jewish presence in this land by stating: "We were here 4,000 years ago, and will be here when the Messiah comes."

Who said that Jews should not be here when Messiah comes? And why can't we both await the

Messiah together? Why do Israelis insist on waiting for the Messiah all by themselves?

I say it freely: We want you to be here when the Messiah comes. We want both our peoples to be here, side by side.

I want to stress that the majority of our people are seeking a political solution based on a just peace that satisfies our legitimate demand for the end of the occupation, the acceptance of our right to self-determination, and our right to set up an independent state. Any questions of our credibility in seeking mutual recognition can be answered by the decisions of the Fez conference, which are binding on all the Arabs, including Palestinians through our representatives, the PLO.

Is not our willingness to accept the judgment of an international peace conference under the supervision of the U.N. the greatest proof of our willingness to seek a fair solution? Does it not proclaim our readiness, *de facto*, to deal with Israelis, and offer recognition, *de jure*, at such a conference? Is there any greater guarantee of security than peace itself?

Critics ask: "Will the Palestinians be capable of civilised means of negotiation with leaders whose hands are unstained by blood?" I wish these critics to show us "civilised means" in order to satisfy our just demands.

Our people have knocked at the door of the U.N. thousands of

times. Have the Israeli governments responded?

And is it really reasonable to request that only leaders whose hands are not stained with blood come forward to negotiate? Will the critics make the same request of their own Israeli leadership?

I am not qualified to speak about the credentials of Shamir and Sharon and Rabin, the breaker of bones. I merely raise the question. Such statements are not useful.

The only reasonable and realistic position is to say to ourselves and to both our peoples: Let us stop this endless cycle of suffering, and let legitimate representatives of our people meet and sit together and recognise each other. Let the world witness and guarantee the results and let the world see the heaven on earth we can create together.

By accepting the presence of an Israeli state in our homeland, Palestine, in return for establishing our own independent state, our people, through their legitimate representative, the PLO, are in fact stating in the most concrete terms that "although we will not forget, we are willing to forgive."

Is there a greater moral capacity than this? Can anybody on earth be more realistic than this?

The writer is a surgeon practising in the West Bank. The article is reprinted from The Jerusalem Post.

Spirit of 'glasnost' arrives in Gulf

By Matt Spetelnick
Reuters

ABOARD THE USS SIMPSON IN THE GULF — The thaw in U.S.-Soviet relations has apparently spread to the troubled Gulf.

In recent weeks, U.S. and Soviet warships stationed in the region have exchanged greetings, cooperated in an unprecedented joint minesweeping operation and developed unusually cordial relations for navies that are at odds in other parts of the world.

"We're seeing real signs of 'glasnost' (openness)," said Mark Lutz, a Washington-based international affairs expert who made a recent tour of the Middle East.

Navy Captain Donald Dyer, commander of a U.S. destroyer Squadron in the Gulf, said the warming trend between the navies of the two superpowers stemmed from a shared objective in the region.

"We both want to make sure

our merchant vessels can transit the Gulf safely to keep the flow of Middle East oil," he said in an interview aboard this guided missile frigate.

The U.S. and Soviet navies both maintain a presence in the region to discourage Iran and Iraq from launching attacks on their merchant shipping.

As protectors of merchant ships, they face the common dangers of missile strikes, speedboat raids and mines capable of blasting through steel-armoured hulls.

American naval officers said they believe the improved relations reflect the spirit of "glasnost," the policy of openness engineered by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

In an unprecedented display of co-operation in January, the U.S. navy responded to a request from the Soviet navy to help search for a mine in the central Gulf.

Two American helicopters were dispatched to aid a Soviet minesweeper, which ultimately located and destroyed the mine.

Last month, a Soviet destroyer wished the crew of a passing American warship "happy presidents' day" on the U.S. holiday honouring the birthdays of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln.

Christmas greetings were also exchanged in December, and British warships have reported similar friendly radio exchanges with Soviet ships.

In the Gulf, U.S. and Soviet ships are in regular contact, identifying themselves by radio and blinkerlights.

"Our aim is to eliminate one dangerous element of surprise out here," said commander James McGivie, skipper of the Simpson.

Warmer relations in the Gulf contrast sharply with the intense superpower rivalry that rules the waves in other parts of the world.

In the icy North Atlantic, U.S. and Soviet ships shadow each other and play sometimes dangerous cat-and-mouse games to collect intelligence and train their seamen.

Qunaytra: A symbol for distrust

By John Fullerton
Reuters

QUNAYTRA, Syria — Lieutenant Abdallah Sleiman of the Syrian army is at war with the two Israeli soldiers 100 metres away, his only weapon a pair of elderly binoculars.

Between the protagonists lies United Nations disengagement position number 28, a bundle of white-painted buses and barricades manned by young Syrians in blue berets, equipped with Steyr rifles and dogs trained to sniff out explosives.

The two Israelis, probably reservists like Sleiman, shelter from the bitter wind in their own guardroom. A taunting sign reads: "Welcome to Israel."

The homes and shops of Qunaytra town have been destroyed, not in battle but in deliberate demolition by Israeli bulldozers and dynamite.

To the south, Sleiman's post faces a deceptively peaceful, grassy field dominated by a ridge topped by an array of advanced Israeli electronic listening gear and bunkers.

Inches under the grass lie mines planted by Israeli and Syrian forces during the October 1973 Middle East war, when armoured battles surged around this rolling plain now littered with boulders and the wrecks of burned-out tanks.

"Only a few weeks ago a 17-year-old Syrian stepped on a jumping mine, and it sheared off the top of his head," said an Austrian officer in the U.N. peacekeeping force.

The device is designed to leap two metres into the air before exploding in a spray of steel fragments.

Syria is still at war with Israel but they are kept from each other's throats by a 1974 ceasefire pact that must be renewed every six months.

Occasionally, the U.N. soldiers

say, the two sides test each other's responses.

Israeli jets have dropped out of the mist swirling around the Golan Heights. The huge line of peaks to the west are streaked with snow at this time of year.

"I remember they came in low," said one U.N. soldier. "They climbed vertically over Qunaytra and left." Syrian Sukhoi jets have done much the same thing, in the other direction.

Qunaytra district is Syrian-held but demilitarised territory with Israeli positions visible on three sides.

The homes and shops of Qunaytra town have been destroyed, not in battle but in deliberate demolition by Israeli bulldozers and dynamite.

The only sound is the wind buffeting tress and bushes which sprout from the ruined homes of 55,000 Arabs.

On a hilltop at the town's edge, a military hospital provides a good view. It is a favourite place to visit by Iranian tourists who clamber up the bullet-scarred staircase.

The town, which lies on the crossroads leading to Beirut to the West, Damascus to the north and Israel to the south, was occupied along with the rest of the Golan Heights in 1967.

Syria insists that the heights must be handed back as part of any comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute.

Qunaytra's symbolism goes further than that. Syria has been attacked, interfered with or ruled by outsiders since ancient times. Seleucids, Greeks, Romans, Persians, Turks and finally French have all held sway.

Damascus rejects what it calls Washington's partial solutions to the Middle East issue — proposals for limited Palestinian autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza.

A tour of Qunaytra's streets shows the extent of the destruction.

Qunaytra was empty save for a handful of families by the time war erupted in October 1973 with Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's assault across the Suez Canal. Once again, Golan was

Chad war overspill threatens Sudan's coalition government

By Hamza Hendawi
Reuters

KHARTOUM — Conflicting statements on the presence in Sudan of Libyan-backed forces involved in the Chad have embarrassed the Khartoum government and may threaten its precarious coalition, diplomatic sources said.

They said closer ties with Libya since Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi came to power in May 1986 appeared to be at the heart of the problem which has highlighted the lack of a consistent foreign policy.

Mahdi and ministers belonging to his Umma Party continue to stress that foreign forces which had infiltrated the western Darfur region were no longer there.

The threat from foreign forces was first underlined last week by Interior Minister Sid Ahmed Al Hussein, a member of the coalition junior partner, the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) which has traditionally maintained strong ties with Cairo.

He reported a surge of disruptive activities by foreigners who entered the country illegally and were involved in the long-running conflict between the neighbours Libya and Chad.

Although he did not say so, the reference to foreign forces in Darfur points principally to two Libyan-backed groups fighting the N'djamena government, the Ibn Omar Arab militia and the Islamic Legion, a mercenary force of black Africans.

Despite Mahdi's assertion after Hussein's statement that the fore-

igners had left the country, the armed forces general command reaffirmed Friday that they were still there.

Troops mobilised
It said it had ordered troops to the area to deal with the intruders and that they were continuing to comb border areas in search of foreign forces.

The sources said relations with Libya were at the centre of foreign policy differences between Umma and the DUP.

Umma's close links with Tripoli, forged after the 1985 ouster of Western-backed dictator Jafar Numeiri, had also affected Sudan's relations with its traditional outside backers — Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the United States.

The Arab and Western sources said the three were viewing with concern Libya's growing prestige in Sudan. This was particularly true of Egypt whose President Hosni Mubarak came here last week in a bid to improve tense relations.

The United States and Egypt see Libya's involvement in Sudan as an attempt to exploit its ability to operate in Darfur against the Western-backed government in Chad of President Hissene Habre, the sources said.

A free hand for Libya, Cairo's chief Arab adversary, could pose a serious threat to Egypt's main interest in Sudan, an uninterrupted flow of the waters of the River Nile, they added.

The DUP, still largely pro-Egyptian despite the existence within the party of a faction sympathetic to Libya, blames the

presence of foreign forces in Darfur for the region's recent plunge into virtual lawlessness.

The sources said the foreigners were distributing arms among tribes in Darfur which were in turn used to settle old tribal scores and had led to a dramatic increase in recent months of armed robberies.

Official figures show that 150 policemen were killed in 1987 fighting armed robbers.

Umma is seen by the main opposition party, the militant National Islamic Party (NIP), as responsible for the continued presence of foreign military contingents in Darfur.

A parliamentary probe is expected to get under way soon on allegations made by a NIP deputy that Umma had struck a secret deal with the Ibn Omar militia to use Sudanese territory against Chad.

Chad has also accused Sudan of collusion with Libya and was reported in Khartoum last week to be massing troops on its border with Sudan.

Libya's own links with Libya go back to his years in exile during the 16-year rule of Numeiri. In 1970, he led an unsuccessful Libyan-backed invasion of Sudan to unseat Numeiri.

Libya's involvement in Sudan has widened with an increase in generous military support for the Khartoum government in recent months.

Egypt, Sudan's main outside support during the Numeiri years, was seen here as reluctant to match Libya's military backing.

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Sweden supports international peace conference A Palestinian state too

On Tuesday, February 9, a debate was held in the Swedish Parliament in Stockholm about the Middle East problems. Questions were asked by five MPs. They were answered by Stan Andersson, Minister for Foreign Affairs. Following is Andersson's statement:

SINCE those weeks before Christmas more than forty people — all of them Palestinians — have been killed in the occupied territories and a far greater number wounded, in some cases seriously. The Israeli army's harsh practices with violence, ill-treatment and bullets against defenceless people cannot be justified. The methods used in the Israeli occupation policy call to mind other places in the world where the civilian population suffers oppression with terror-like methods.

However, the Israeli violence towards the Palestinian civilian population is not, in spite of everything, the reason for the problems but only a symptom. Underlying it all is not least the fact that Israel for more than 20 years has been occupying foreign territory, whose population opposes this occupation by every available means.

A fundamental principle of Swedish foreign policy, in the Middle East as well as in other parts of the world, is the inadmissibility of acquisition of territory by force. This principle is laid down in the United Nations Charter, which all member states — including Israel — have signed. Respect for this principle is of fundamental importance not least for all small nations. It is therefore in Sweden's interests to object vigorously to any breach of this principle.

Israel's continuing occupation of the West Bank and Gaza can never be justified. A military occupation can only be regarded as a temporary situation and cannot give the occupying power the right to annex territory or to extend its own legislation and administration to the occupied territories. Such measures are contrary to international law. There are no special rules for Israel.

The Israeli occupation policy gives in many respects the impression of deliberate incorporation of the occupied areas, step by step, in the Israeli community. I have in mind the acquisition of land, settlements, roads, water and energy supplies etc. Creeping annexation of this kind can never be accepted. It must be condemned. It need scarcely be said that such a policy is absolutely contrary to all the efforts to reach a negotiated settlement with the Palestinians.

Sweden — in common with an overwhelming majority of the countries of the world, including, for instance, the Nordic and the twelve EC countries — has condemned Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights. Furthermore neither we nor those states have accepted unilateral initiatives to alter Jerusalem's status.

The situation in the occupied areas is now characterised by practically chronic unrest which finds expression in demonstrations and spontaneous resistance actions on the part of the population. We share the opinion which has been expressed by a large number of countries in, for example, the United Nations General Assembly that these reactions stem from a justified indignation on the part of the Palestinians at the continuing occupation and the harsh methods of the occupying power. The resistance of the population to such patently unlawful measures as Israeli settlements in occupied territory is understandable.

Another fundamental principle in Swedish foreign policy in the Middle East and elsewhere is the principle of the right of all peoples to self-determination. The Palestinians are a people. Their right to self-determination must be a fundamental element in every possible lasting solution of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The Palesti-

nians are denied this right by Israel through, among other things, the occupation of Gaza and the West Bank. A solution to the conflict that does not take into account the wishes and legitimate rights of the population will in all probability be neither peaceful nor durable.

A third principle in Swedish foreign policy, and a principle that is likewise fundamental for the whole of the United Nations system, is the principle of peaceful settlement of disputes. This principle presupposes that the different parties to a conflict are prepared to talk with one another. Refusal to negotiate is not compatible with this principle. If there is a genuine desire for peace on the part of the Israeli

with Israel.

There is no alternative to a negotiated solution. Sweden has repeatedly expressed its support for the idea of an international conference on the Middle East under the auspices of the United Nations with the participation of the parties concerned. Sweden has also striven in bilateral talks, including talks with Israel, for increased support for the idea of a conference, which has now obtained a very wide international backing. A conference could be an important contribution to a just and lasting solution to the conflict.

The defence of human rights is yet another fundamental principle in Swedish foreign policy. The importance of safeguarding hu-

The United Nations decision to set up the state of Israel also constituted a decision to set up a Palestinian state. We must give our support also to this part of the decision. A lasting solution can only be achieved if the Palestinians are given the opportunity of exercising their right to self-determination, including the right to establish a state of their own, which lives in peace with Israel. Through this alone can also Israel's future in the Middle East be safeguarded in the long term.

man rights prompts us to protest openly and unequivocally against violations wherever they may occur. Recent developments are clear evidence of the lack of Israeli respect for the human rights of the Palestinians.

It is also important to try to contribute to a reasonable social and economic development in the occupied territories. The government is prepared to explore different ways of how Sweden can best promote this, also by means of an increase in aid. In addition, we should be pleased to see an increase in exports from the occupied areas. As regards the question of how goods manufactured in Israeli settlements in the occupied territories are to be treated,

the government has no possibilities of preventing the importation of such goods unless the United Nations Security Council decides on or recommends sanctions.

It is on the basis of Israel's refusal to respect principles of international law that are fundamental and immensely important in our eyes — and Israel's refusal to accept the applicability of international law in relation to the occupied territories — that Sweden has criticised Israel. This criticism of ours has become stronger than previously, for the simple reason that the Israeli government does not appear to have been influenced by our appeals and those of others or by what we and other countries have so far put forward. On the contrary, Israel has demonstrated the opposite, for example recently by means of its new decisions on expelling Palestinians from the occupied areas.

Israeli policy was rightly criticised recently by a unanimous United Nations Security Council. It was the first occasion for a long time that the five permanent members were in agreement on an issue concerning the Middle East. The Security Council once again confirmed the applicability of the Geneva convention to the Israeli occupation and called on Israel to refrain from the deportations. The fact that they were nonetheless carried out must be condemned.

Sweden was one of the countries that actively participated in the United Nations decision to set up the state of Israel. On the basis of this Sweden has also defended Israel's participation in the United Nations. Sweden has constantly upheld Israel's right to live in peace within recognised and secure borders.

Israel's development has been far from problem-free. The continued occupation has led to domestic differences of opinion and conflicts and gives rise to fears about the development of Israeli democracy. It is now more

important than ever before to support the democratic and moderate forces in Israel, especially those that strive for a peaceful solution as the foundation for the future of Israel. Allow me to mention in particular the leader of the Labour Party, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who is actively working for an international peace conference.

The United Nations decision to set up the state of Israel also constituted a decision to set up a Palestinian state. We must give our support also to this part of the decision. A lasting solution can only be achieved if the Palestinians are given the opportunity of exercising their right to self-determination, including the right to establish a state of their own, which lives in peace with Israel. Through this alone can also Israel's future in the Middle East be safeguarded in the long term.

In this context I should like to emphasise how much the government appreciates the work carried out by Folke Bernadotte in connection with the Second World War and later as the United Nations mediator in the Middle East. His efforts certainly deserve to be called to mind. He is one of many Swedes who have done a lot for peace in the Middle East.

In addition to the United Nations General Assembly's 1947 partition resolution, Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 contain important elements for a comprehensive solution. As we understand them, Israel will after negotiations withdraw from the territories occupied in 1967 and Israel's neighbours will recognise the right of the state of Israel to live in peace within secure and recognised borders.

It is a serious matter that the state of affairs prevailing in the occupied territories is allowed to continue. It is a human tragedy that concerns us. It is a Swedish interest to protest against these violations of principles of international law.

Randa Habib's Corner

Pity the smiling faces

NASSER is 13 years old. He has curly black hair, a petite figure and an even-smiling face. Nasser does not go to school, nor does he have leisure time to spend with his pals. Instead, he is one of tens of juvenile peddlers who pop onto cars at traffic-light zones offering assorted collection of goods. Some sell chewing gums, others trade lottery tickets and even garbage bags.

I came to know Nasser at a red traffic light. He told me that he lost his father and that he was the sole breadwinner for his mother and three younger sisters.

The efforts of Ministry of Labour and Social Development to provide shelter and financial support for the unprivileged are appreciated. It is however essential to extend such care to children who are found out in the streets earning their living at an early age. The ministry and social charitable societies are equally asked to step up efforts to give shelter to these children and to provide them with means to earn their living and seek education at the same time. It is highly unfair to leave these youngsters out of the social development process.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

King returns after talks

(Continued from page 1)

attended by the five permanent members of the Security Council and all parties involved in the conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

The King's talks with the Iraqi and Kuwaiti leaders were believed to be part of Jordan's efforts to coordinate Arab stand towards the American initiative. The King has already consulted Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on the proposal, put forward by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz during a visit to the region last week.

Petra said the King's talks in Iraq and Kuwait also covered "Arab issues and especially the latest situation in the region in light of the Arab uprising" in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza.

The King was accompanied on the visits to Iraq and Kuwait by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Shafiq Zaid Ibn Shaker and Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri. Upon his departure from Baghdad, for Kuwait Wednesday, King Hussein sent a cable to President Hussein expressing Jordan's confidence in the strength of Iraq to repel Iran's aggression, Petra said.

The King also paid tribute to the Iraqi leader for his endeavours towards developing his country despite the war and voiced appreciation of the Iraqi armed forces for their role at the battle front and achievements in military industries.

The King also sent a cable to Sheikh Jaber expressing thanks and gratitude for the hospitality and warm feelings extended to him and his accompanying delegation during their visit to Kuwait. The visit, the King added, "was a good opportunity for us to exchange views and about issues of the Arab and Islamic nations and about ways for supporting Arab solidarity."

2 more Palestinians join martyrs

(Continued from page 1)

the West Bank and Gaza Wednesday and a number of villages and Palestinian refugee camps were under curfew.

In the West Bank town of Halhoul, the PPS reported an empty, Israeli-owned bus used to carry Arab workers to their jobs was burned in front of the municipality building.

New weapon

In clashes near Qalqilya in the West Bank, the Palestine Press Service (PPS) said Israeli armoured personnel carriers for the first time fired small pebbles at demonstrators.

The army had no comment, but the Israeli daily Haaretz said the army was experimenting with a new weapon, a gun that fired gravel.

Military sources said Wednesday.

Shamir wants U.S. to drop plan

(Continued from page 1)

"You know Shamir is no great innovator so his plan will be largely based on the Camp David agreements," he said.

The U.S. plan, based on the exchange of land for peace, curtails the period of limited Palestinian "self-rule" outlined in Camp David and calls for negotiations before the end of this year on a final settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The official declined to detail Shamir's proposal but made clear it excluded a U.N.-sponsored conference.

Shamir says he agrees to Palestinian "self-rule" in occupied areas but that Israel must retain overall "sovereignty."

Shamir also disagrees with the opening in December of talks on a final settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict. He prefers the Camp David formula which allows for up to three years at least before such talks start.

Opponents of Shamir accuse him of using delaying tactics to avoid having to give a negative

'War of cities' continue unabated

(Continued from page 1)

among the dead were four children buried under the rubble of their home.

Iraq also said its air force pounded military and economic installations in several towns or cities in western Iran, setting their targets ablaze.

In Moscow, Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennadiy I. Gerasimov was asked about Iranian charges that the Soviet Union supplied long-range missiles to Iraq.

Gerasimov acknowledged that Soviet missiles had been shipped to Iraq under an agreement between the two countries.

"The Soviet Union previously delivered a limited shipment of short-range missiles," Gerasimov said. "We never gave our permission to modify those missiles to increase their range, and modernisation was not foreseen by that agreement."

Iran has accused Iraq of using Soviet-made missiles. Western military analysts believe the missiles are Soviet-built SS-1 SCUD-B weapons provided by other countries, possibly North Korea.

Both sides have SCUD-Bs, which have a range of 300 kilometres. Baghdad, only 130 kilometres from the border, is within easy range of the Iranian batteries.

But to hit Tebran, 465 kilometres from the frontier, the Iraqis needed longer-range weapons.

Swedes ponder future of welfare state

Jordan Times staff reporter **Najwa Najjar** early this month visited Sweden. She filed the following report:

STOCKHOLM, Sweden — Though you often hear Swedes complain of the high income tax they pay, you rarely hear a Swede wanting to change the present social welfare system. Those interviewed by the Jordan Times spoke of the advantages and disadvantages of the social welfare system and offered some suggestions to update it.

Both businessmen and officials believe that the governing Social Democratic Party has fulfilled its goal of achieving equality among all Swedes, and now it is time to introduce some changes that would motivate the Swedish people. The most common proposal was more involvement of the private sector in the economy.

According to some businessmen, the progressive tax system, which deducts 30 per cent of the individual's wages for local tax and an additional unified government tax depending on the job, has played a negative role on people's incentive and encouraged some Swedes to emigrate to countries with lower taxes.

"A manager of a company can pay up to 80 per cent of his or her salary in taxes. Many of these educated people will go to the U.S. or Germany, where the taxes are lower," said a business administrator, who requested anonymity.

He pointed out that high taxes were not the only killers of motivation, but that employees could not receive fringe benefits nor raises because their companies were taxed on both these two "motivating factors."

Vice president of market coordination at Alfa Laval, Ake Carnmarker, added, "taxes are detrimental to people's improvement. The more you work the more you are punished. If you work more, you are taxed to death."

A manager of a company complained of having to pay close to 80 per cent of his wages, but immediately added that he did not have to worry about any other services he or his family needed.

In return for taxes and fees, people living in Sweden (which includes immigrants who hold residence permits) are provided with a broad range of public services and social welfare benefits that guarantees a minimum living standard, provides aid in emergencies, redistributes income more evenly over a person's life and narrows the gaps between different income groups.

Head of the handicapped department at the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs Lars

Blomgren said that the social democratic government which calls for a strong society uses the tax system to fulfill its goal. "Solidarity is an important word in Swedish policy. Those who are well off and strong show solidarity with those who are not. This is important for the poor and the weak in terms of health and education, since they will receive shelter and support."

Blomgren cited services for the handicapped as an example. "If a child is severely disabled, parents will receive financial support for the extra costs. If they need aid, the aid is free, and if they have to work then someone will take care of the child," he said.

In addition, the state's responsibility towards the child is not over once the child has reached a consenting age. The state gives the child special assistance in schools and finds him or her a special job; if the disabled child cannot work, he or she will receive a pension. All workplaces are adapted to the needs of the disabled with the help of government subsidies.

Other benefits
There are other benefits which the residents of Sweden enjoy as part of the social welfare system. All residents are covered by national health insurance. If a person is ill, or must stay at home to care for sick children, he or she receives a taxable daily allowance, in most cases 90 per cent of lost income.

Except for modest fees, the health insurance pays all hospitalisation costs, prescribed drugs, lab fees and visits to doctors at public outpatient clinics. A large proportion of private doctors' fees and about 40 per cent of dental costs are also covered by this insurance.

When a child is born, the parents are legally entitled to a total of 12 months of paid leave from work, which can be shared between them. They also receive tax-free child allowances, equal for everyone, until the child's 16th birthday. Children who continue their education are entitled to study allowances. At University level, these consist mainly of repayable loans. Municipalities provide a growing number of children with day-care and after-school activities at low costs. Low-income families and pensioners are eligible for housing allowances.

A basic old-age pension, financed by tax revenues, is payable to everyone as of the age of 65. The state also pays an income-related supplementary pen-



Day care centres for pre-school children are generally run by municipalities. Their aim is not only to make things easier for parents who work or study, but — in this age of one- and two-child families — also to teach small children how to get along with others, to work well in groups and to make friends with adults other than their parents. Here, for instance, children are learning to help prepare a meal. (Photo: Beppe Arvidsson)

sion financed from employer payroll fees. The two types of pension, which both rise automatically with inflation, are designed to provide two thirds of a pensioner's average real earning during his or her 15 best-paid years.

Insurance also pays all costs resulting from work-related accidents. The majority of those working in Sweden have unemployment insurance through their trade unions, while unemployed without such coverage can receive a smaller cash salary from the central government. There are extensive government programmes of job retraining and sheltered employment as well as relocation grants to help the unemployed find work.

Reforms

Overall, those interviewed agreed that they would not mind paying so much taxes if they had more say in how the money was spent. A debate is going on in Sweden on whether tax money is being channelled into the needy areas, with some calling for the power to spend their money the way they want to.

"Taxpayers doubt if they are getting out of the system as much as they put in it. Since we must pay so much, why can't we use that money the way we want and the insurance the way we want? Why are we treated as non-thinking people, needing someone to take care of us from the day we were born until we are gray?"

asked the business administrator. Carnmarker also commented on the "big brother" syndrome. "People aren't too happy with so much government control. Most would not object to taxes if they were in agreement on how the taxes are being used."

He said that in many cases when the tax money is needed as a security net, taxpayers do not find the security. "For example if you do not have an acute disease, but need hospitalisation, it may be three years before you can have a bed at the hospital. That is unacceptable when you are paying such high taxes."

The younger generations of Swedes who grew up with the system are less likely to complain. One young saleslady responded defensively: "People do not understand that we do not have anything to worry about." Similar responses were given by other Swedes and by immigrants residing in Sweden, who enjoys the full benefits given to any Swede.

Carnmarker said: "The young do not feel the burden of taxes as much as the older generations since they have incorporated into the system. If you are born within it, you tend to accept it since you do not know anything else."

The suggestion made by the president of Pharmacia Biomedicals, Stellan Lind to increase the involvement of the private sector, was reiterated by many Swedes interviewed by the Jordan Times.

Lind believes that the public sector should not be dismantled

"since everyone agrees on the welfare system"; but since Swedes disagree on how the system could be more effective in providing services, the public and private sector should compete on roughly the same terms.

The private sector was overlooked in recent years because of the principles followed in the Social Democratic Party. "Only those with money would be able to go to private clinics, or hospitals or other institutions," he said. However, nowadays, he asserts that it may be necessary to involve a large segment of the private sector in the economy to revitalise the economy and fulfill the needs of the people. According to the Swedes interviewed the private sector would "give people a choice, reduce costs and increase the effectiveness of the institutions."

Private versus public
Although 90 per cent of the corporations and businesses are in private hands, the public sector controls 60 per cent of the economy. There are virtually no private education, health or social institutions.

In the 1940's the Social Democratic Party had to create a centralised system to bring material quality to the lives of the Swedish people, said Carnmarker. "Sweden was a poor country, and the Social Democrats were able to accomplish equality. Now they are thinking hard of social

Morocco kicks off 16th Africa Nations Cup finals

RABAT (R) — Morocco kicks off the 16th Africa Nations Cup finals against the Leopards of Zaire Sunday aiming to use the showpiece of Africa's premier soccer competition to boost its claim to host the 1994 World Cup.

No country in football-mad Africa has yet had the honour of staging the game's top event and for the next fortnight the eyes of a critical soccer public will be focused on stadiums in Casablanca and Rabat.

Morocco, backed by the entire continent, is vying with the United States and Brazil for the 1994 contest.

The president of the world governing body, FIFA, Joao Havelange will be in Morocco to witness events at first hand.

"I am the friend of Africa," he declared in an interview with the leading Moroccan daily L'Opinion Wednesday. "I am watching this continent."

Africa could not have asked for a better stage on which to present its claim.

Sports writers and commentators are agreed the tournament promises to be one of the most exciting and closely-fought in the cup's 31-year history with a dazzling array of individual talent on display.

Of the eight teams taking part at least five — Cameroon, Egypt, Morocco, Algeria, and Ivory Coast — have serious claims to the trophy.

To other three — Zaire, Nigeria, and Kenya — all have great players who are capable of upsetting the form book.

The contest is also likely to decide the fate of more than one man.

Morocco's Brazilian coach Jose Melhi Faria — a hero after the 1986 Mexico World Cup when his team became the first African side to make the second round — has been under pressure since losing a place in the Seoul Olymp-

pics to Tunisia.

"We will have this cup," he confidently declared earlier this week. If not, the rumour in Morocco is that King Hassan — a keen football fan — will ask him to pack his bags.

Morocco are drawn in Group A in what on paper appears the tougher of the two groups. The matches will be in Casablanca.

They must overcome an Algerian side brimming with professionals playing in Europe, such as FC Porto's European Cup hero Rabah Madjer, a rejuvenated Zaire back in the finals after a 13-year absence, and a determined Ivory Coast.

For many the Ivory Coast — in peak condition after months of preparation in Brazil and France — are the favourites.

"I am convinced that we can win this African Cup," Sports Minister Laurent Dona-Fologo said after the draw for the finals was announced in October.

Manager Yeo Martial said the team, known as the Elephants, has never been better prepared physically or mentally.

"The players learned a lot in Brazil and came back in dazzling physical condition," he told reporters.

Group B pitches defending champions Egypt against Cameroon, the team they beat in the previous final — but only after a penalty shoot-out. Nigeria and Kenya, with top scorer Peter Dwo in great form, will be lying in wait for any slip-ups.

Cameroon's indomitable lions are reportedly as strong as ever after victories against the Sudan and Uganda on the road to Morocco. It is their sixth consecu-

tive appearance in the finals which they won four years ago in the Ivory Coast.

Egypt arrive without some of their star players and with the long-ball tactics of British manager Mike Smith under mounting criticism.

However, a young side with a new attacking line-up of Gamal Abdel Hamid, Hossam Hassan and Emad Sullivan has shown its metal in recent friendlies.

Unlike some of the favourites, whose professionals will only arrive at the last moment, they have had the advantage of playing together.

The Moroccan authorities have gone to great lengths to ensure the smooth organisation of the event but are painfully aware that once the first whistle is blown what happens on the field is more likely to decide the fate of their application.

"The slightest problem and the World Cup will go to the United States," said Michel de Bono, sports writer on the Moroccan Al Maghrib daily.

The biggest questionmark appears to hang over the 17 referees. All have been picked from non-qualifying countries and in some of these the game is less developed.

Anticipating problems FIFA and the African Football Confederation have been running joint training courses over the last few days to make sure they are up to scratch on all the laws of the game.

"Morocco must do well, but more importantly the tournament must take place in a spirit of fair play and good organisation. The African game must show it has come of age," De Bono said.

Many commentators, who say Brazil will not be awarded the World Cup because Havelange himself is Brazilian, argue Africa has a stronger claim than United States where soccer is not the national game.



MAGNIFICENT STADIUM — A view of the King Fahd International Stadium in Riyadh which was opened last week

TENNIS



Steffi Graf



Chris Evert



Mats Wilander

Graf, Evert advance at Florida tournament

BOCA RATON, Florida (R) — Top seed Steffi Graf breezed through her second round match against American Lisa Bonder in 46 minutes, while second seed Chris Evert ended the debut of 14-year-old Monica Seles of Yugoslavia at the \$300,000 Florida Tennis Tournament Tuesday.

Third-seeded American Pam Shriver also needed just 46 minutes as she gave up just one game in each set to West German Wiltrud Probst and fifth seed Helena Sukova of Czechoslovakia sailed past Argentine Patricia Tarabini 6-2, 6-1.

Sixth seed Claudia Kohde-Kilsch of West Germany double faulted on match point to lose a second round serve and volley duel to Gigi Fernandez of Puerto Rico 7-5, 5-7, 6-4.

Evert had no trouble ousting Seles 6-2, 6-1. The young Yugoslav was impressive in her professional debut Monday as she eliminated 31-ranked Canadian Helen Kelesi.

The third-ranked Evert, playing her first match in five weeks, repeatedly outlasted the 14-year-old, who hits with two hands on

backhand and forehand groundstrokes.

Seles did not hold her serve once but impressed Evert with her tenacious play.

"I was very impressed. She moves well from side to side and she times the ball well," Evert said.

Graf, the defending champion and world number one, crushed Bonder 6-1, 6-1 in her opening match after receiving a first round bye.

Graf, who was not in top form despite winning in San Antonio last week, seemed much happier with her play here.

"I'm back to my good tennis after playing bad last week," said Graf, who used her powerful forehand groundstroke to keep the 56th-ranked Bonder out of position the entire match.

The 18-year-old West German allowed Bonder to hold serve once in each set and never lost her own serve.

Wilander beats

Tulane

In Orlando, Mats Wilander, playing his first Grand Prix

tournament since winning the Australian Open six weeks ago, said he is feeling refreshed after he beat French qualifier Thierry Tulasne 6-2, 6-2 in a first round match of the \$415,000 Orlando Classic Tuesday.

Second-seeded Czechoslovak Miloslav Mecir also advanced to the second round with a comfortable 6-3, 6-2 win over Uruguay's Diego Perez.

There were two seeded casualties Tuesday.

Jimmy Connors, the tournament's third seed and a finalist last year, was upset by fellow American David Pate, who came back from a set and a service break down to win 3-6, 6-4, 6-3. Pate called it "one of my biggest career results."

American Dan Cassidy eliminated seventh seeded Joakim Nyström 6-0, 7-6. The Swede, playing his first tournament in three months because of various injuries said he was nervous due to a lack of match play.

Wilander, number two in the world, moved the ball around the court and caught Tulasne flat-footed on several occasions. The Swede rarely came to the net, but when he did, it was on a solid approach shot that set up an easy volley winner.

"It was good to have a break after Australia," said Wilander. "I am now really excited about playing again."

Fourth seeded Boris Becker rallied back from set point down in the first set to beat Spain's Emilio Sanchez 7-6, 6-4.

On Sunday, Becker defeated Sanchez in the final of the Champions Cup at Indian Wells, California.

"I was tired and exhausted in the first set," said Becker. "After that it was a matter of getting it together. We were both slow today," said the former Wimbledon champion.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Maurice Evans resigns as Oxford boss

LONDON (R) — Maurice Evans resigned Tuesday as team manager of struggling English First Division soccer club Oxford United. Evans, who guided Oxford to their greatest success when they won the English League Cup in 1986, agreed to remain in charge as "caretaker" until his successor is appointed. He will then become the club's general manager and take charge of scouting and youth development. His resignation followed a dismal run. Oxford have failed to win a First Division match since Nov. 7 and are in danger of relegation. Evans, who became Oxford manager reluctantly three years ago, said: "I have been thinking about it for some time. I saw the chairman Kevin Maxwell last night and told him I wanted to stand down. He agreed, but has asked me to continue as caretaker manager. He does not want me to leave Oxford and has offered me the post of general manager next season. I have accepted it."

W. German captain to miss W. Berlin match

MUNICH (R) — West German soccer captain Klaus Allofs said Tuesday he was likely to miss at least one match for his country during the West Berlin four-nation tournament because of club commitments. Allofs said he would probably play in West Germany's opening match against Sweden on March 31 when he would miss a cup tie for his French club Marseilles. But he said he would probably return to France for a League match for Marseilles, who are fourth in the French First Division, eight points behind leaders Monaco. "I hope a compromise will be found to the satisfaction of both parties," said the experienced forward who may be missing if West Germany succeed in reaching the tournament final. The tournament is being contested by West Germany, Sweden, the Soviet Union and Argentina and is an important part of West Germany's build-up in the European Championship finals which they are hosting in June.

Mansell leads Formula One tyre tests

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Britain's Nigel Mansell, runner-up to Nelson Piquet in the World Drivers' Championship last year, led the way on the second day of Formula One tyre tests at the Jacarepagua circuit Tuesday. Mansell clocked one minute 31.61 in his Williams while his former team-mate, Brazil's Piquet who now drives for Lotus, had the second best lap time of 1:31.90. Italian Michele Alboreto still had the fastest overall time, the 1:30.60 he set in his Ferrari on Monday's first day of testing. Drivers and technicians said they did not think a series of regulation changes, aimed at slowing down cars and reducing the risk of injury, would affect the quality of the racing in the forthcoming season. "I don't think the changes make it any less competitive," said a technician for the Ferrari team of Alboreto and Austria's Gerhard Berger who declined to give his name. The 1988 World Championship opens with the Brazilian Grand Prix here April 3.

New Zealand agrees to participate in America's Cup

SYDNEY (R) — New Zealand's America's Cup Yachting Challenge Syndicate said Wednesday it agreed to participate in a multi-nation elimination series starting in San Diego Feb. 1, 1989.

Syndicate chairman Michael Fay said in a statement released here the America's Cup match would then start on May 1, 1989, also in San Diego, California.

"All yachts competing, including the defending yacht from the San Diego Yacht Club, would be single-masted, monohulls, not more than 90 foot (27 metres) on the load waterline," Fay said.

Fay's move to break the legal logjam surrounding the world's most important yachting trophy follows the San Diego Yacht Club's last-minute decision in late February to accept other challengers to race off California this September.

San Diego issued the invitation in the New York supreme court, where it was facing charges from British millionaire yachtsman Peter de Savary that it had violated the cup's deed of gift by stopping countries other than New Zealand from challenging for the cup.

Fay initially called the offer too little, too late as no other syndicate would have had time to build a contender.

The millionaire merchant banker also criticised San Diego's decision to race in a multihull, thought

to be faster than a monohull, off San Pedro Bay, California, where the winds are likely to favour multihulls.

But Wednesday Fay said he had agreed to the San Diego offer in an attempt to preserve the spirit of the America's Cup.

"New Zealand wants to settle the America's Cup on the water," Fay said. "As true sportsmen, the Kiwis have always wanted this match to be multi-national, and have now presented to San Diego the means of accomplishing this objective."

"We hope that the San Diego Yacht Club will now deal with this matter in the true tradition and spirit of the America's Cup and embrace this opportunity," Fay said.

"The San Diego Yacht Club only agreed to allow other countries to participate when they knew it was impossible for anyone else to be there," Fay said.

"It's time for the interests of yachtsmen around the world to prevail over the private and selfish interests of Sail America."

"Accordingly, in a letter sent to justice Ciparick (of the supreme court) today we have stated that we agree to participate in a multi-national challenge elimination series starting in San Diego on Feb. 1, 1989, with the America's Cup match commencing on May 1, 1989, in San Diego."

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Answer: They named their team the Spiders because all of them knew how to do this—CATCH FLIES.

S. Africa sanctions vetoed

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — Britain and the United States have vetoed a Security Council resolution calling for mandatory trade sanctions against South Africa, an action denounced by African delegates as hypocritical.

The resolution up for passage Tuesday called for sanctions similar to those already imposed by the United States and the European Economic Community, to which Britain belongs.

France, West Germany and Japan abstained from the 10-2 vote. Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, China, Italy, Nepal, Senegal, the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia and Zambia voted in favour.

The British and American envoys said they were using their veto because the measure was mandatory.

But ambassadors from Zimbabwe, Botswana and Zambia pointed out that Britain and the

United States have called for a mandatory arms embargo against Iran to punish it for ignoring a Security Council resolution calling for a ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war.

"These are contradictions we find it difficult to reconcile," said the South African Ambassador Peter Dinko Zube told a news conference after the vote.

The measure included a one-year ban on export and sale of oil to South Africa, on iron and steel imports, on the sale of all South African coins, including kruggerands, and on investment and loans.

It also called for an end to all promotion and support for trade with South Africa.

"This resolution has judged two members of the Security Council and found them wanting," said Ambassador Isack S.G. Mudenge of Zimbabwe. British Ambassador Sir Crispin Tickell and American ambassador Herbert Okun both told the council mandatory sanctions would cripple the chances for an "internal" dialogue in South Africa.

The West German envoy, Alexander Count von Wartenburg, gave a similar reason for abstaining. But he also warned South Africa that the West German abstention is "a signal that our government's patience is not inexhaustible."

The French and Japanese envoys did not comment on their abstentions.

In another development in Johannesburg, an anti-apartheid newspaper has failed to overturn the South African government's emergency power to censor or close down newspapers.

The New Nation said a three-judge supreme court panel Tuesday rejected its suit to invalidate the emergency powers.

"We don't feel we are finished yet," said Gaby Tugwana, acting editor in the absence of Zwelakhe Sisulu, who has been detained without charge since Dec. 12, 1986.

"We will be going back to court next week to lodge an appeal against this decision," he said.

New Nation, funded by the Catholic Church, sought to overturn Home Affairs Minister Stoffel Botha's state of emergency authority, introduced in August, to suspend any newspaper or to appoint an in-house censor at his sole discretion.

Gibraltar hunts for IRA suspect

MARBELLA, Spain (AP) — Police on Spain's southern Costa Del Sol have stepped up their search for another Irish Republican Army (IRA) guerrilla after locating an explosive-packed car apparently intended as a car bomb in nearby Gibraltar.

British press reports identified the person being sought as 29-year-old Evelyn Glenhones, wanted by British police in connection with several IRA actions.

Police, who had tipped British authorities on the presence of an IRA commando team over a month ago, had escalated their search as a result of the discovery of the car. Spanish state security spokesman Augustin Valladolid said Tuesday.

The rental white Ford Fiesta was discovered Tuesday evening in an underground parking garage in the fashionable resort town of Marbella loaded with 64 kilograms of high-power Czech-made Semtex explosive, said Rafael Contreras, Malaga provincial government spokesman.

He said police also found two precision watches set for 11:20 a.m. (1030 GMT) Tuesday, five timers and ammunition for Soviet-designed AK-47 assault rifles to be used in rigging a fragmentary car bomb.

British officials in London said three members of the IRA slain Sunday in Gibraltar by British commandos had planned to bomb a military ceremony Tuesday morning in the heart of the British colony.

Belfast violence continues

In a related development, police and troops clashed with rioters Tuesday as day-long violence swept the streets of Roman Catholic West Belfast over the killing of the three unarmed guerrillas in Gibraltar.

In Dublin and London, politicians expressed concern over the shootings and asked why the trio had not been arrested.

Police said a 727-kilogramme bomb hidden in a hedge was defused not far from the Killen customs post between Newry, County Down and Dundalk in the Irish Republic on the main Belfast-to-Dublin road.

The device was one of the biggest discovered in Northern Ireland in several years.

Mass rally demands ouster of Gandhi

NEW DELHI, India (Agencies) — An opposition rally that drew 250,000 people to New Delhi Wednesday demanded the ouster of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and his government.

"Rajiv must go," they chanted in unison after hearing a resolution pledging to bring down the government.

Police armed with guns and riot sticks were on alert to counter any violence during the rally and a daylong strike called by opposition parties.

Police spokesman Ravi Pawar said no violence was reported.

"The entire police force is on guard to ensure that there is no untoward incident," Pawar said.

New Delhi's 35,000 police were aided by an estimated 5,000 paramilitary troops from the Central Reserve Police Force, according to a police officer who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The rally and general strike were called by the right-wing, Hindu-dominated Bharatiya Janata Party and the Lok Dal, a rural-based party.

Many shops closed in the centre of the capital, but government offices and most private business offices were open.

Police said at least 250,000 people had gathered by afternoon near parliament for the rally.

Organisers put the crowd size at 500,000.

"This mammoth gathering... declares the Congress government at the centre to be anti-labourers, anti-farmers and anti-rural," said the resolution read out at the rally.

It pledged to "bring an end to the present government."

In another development in Amritsar, Jasbir Singh Rode, the militant high priest freed by Gandhi as a Punjab peace gambler, was installed Wednesday as head of India's 16 million Sikhs.

Some 100 militants brandishing assault rifles cheered when Jasbir Singh was proclaimed head priest of the Akal Takht (eternal throne) in the Golden Temple, the Sikhs' holiest shrine.

Jasbir Singh, 33, urged the 10,000 people packed into the huge temple complex to continue with Sikh freedom struggle, but he avoided mention of Khalistan, the independent Sikh homeland for which extremists are fighting.

Gandhi released Jasbir Singh and Sikhism's four other high priests last week as a peace overture to the militants. But the government warned them it would impose a state of emergency in the northern state if its concessions did not get a favourable response.

Column

AIDS-testing warning

LONDON — A leading World Health Organisation (WHO) expert warned Tuesday against screening international travellers for AIDS, saying it would not halt the spread of the deadly disease. Dr. Jim Chin, WHO director of epidemiological surveillance, told a conference: "Since HIV infection is now present in every region of the world... even total exclusion of foreign travellers is not likely to prevent the introduction and spread of HIV infection in any given country. Screening travellers who had a low infection risk could produce more false than correct results, he added. He also said screening would present huge logistical problems. But he said sex tourists — people who travelled specifically to have sex with prostitutes — were a very high risk group both for acquiring and spreading AIDS.

Egypt wants

Tut treasures

CAIRO — Egypt will demand the return of priceless ancient Egyptian artefacts unearthed from the home of a British aristocrat who helped to find King Tutankhamen's tomb, a government spokesman said Tuesday. Straight after news of the find broke in London Monday, Culture Minister Farouk Hosni asked Egypt's embassy in London to press Britain to give the treasures back, ministry spokesman Samir Ghareib said. "Egypt requests the return of the objects. It is our legal right," Ghareib told Reuters in a telephone interview.

Honeymoon murder suspect indicted

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A grand jury has returned a murder indictment against an author who claims Israeli agents threw his bride off a cruise ship to her death during their honeymoon in retaliation for a book detailing Jewish human rights abuses. Scott Robin Roston, who first told authorities his wife, Karen Walz Roston, was blown overboard by a gust of wind while jogging on Feb. 13, changed his story when authorities noted it was not windy that night.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

Ortega blames contras for talks failure

MANAGUA (AP) — Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega charged contra rebels with killing the possibility for cease-fire talks set for Wednesday and called for the meeting to be rescheduled. He also blamed U.S. President Ronald Reagan for the continued bloodshed in Nicaragua's civil war. The contras Tuesday backed out of three days of talks to be held in Nicaraguan territory at a border post with Costa Rica, saying that preliminary meetings should first be held to work out details. Ortega responded by calling for the cease-fire talks to be reset for the third week of this month with an open agenda. "This shows again the lack of political will of the United States government and the counter-revolutionary leaders, as their instrument, to end the war of aggression and terrorist acts against the Nicaraguan people and accept a peaceful solution to the conflict," Ortega said, reading from a prepared statement.

Aquino skips Middle East in planned trip

MANILA (R) — Philippine President Corason Aquino said Wednesday he was not planning to visit the Middle East. "Not this year," he told reporters in reaction to official suggestions that he visit Saudi Arabia this summer to seek Islamic support for his government, which faces threats of a renewed Muslim separatist war on Mindanao in the south. Aquino will visit China and Hong Kong next month and address an International Labour Organisation meeting in Geneva in June.

U.N. body condemns hostage-taking

GENEVA (R) — The United Nations Human Rights Commission Tuesday said hostage-taking was hateful but increasingly used as a means of political pressure. In a resolution sponsored by 11 countries including the United States, the Soviet Union and France, and adopted unanimously without a vote, the 45-member commission said it was alarmed that the practice was growing throughout the world. Hostages were increasingly seized to exert pressure on states or third parties, the resolution said. It denounced all captors of hostages whatever their motives, and demanded that they free their prisoners immediately. It also called on states to take measures to prevent hostage-taking on their territory. The commission, in the final sixth week of its annual session, also unanimously expressed concern at continuing abductions and torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment imposed on people throughout the world.

Taiwan MPs to push for truce with China

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — A lawmaker said Wednesday that several Nationalist members of the legislative Yuan, Taiwan's highest lawmaking body, plan to push for a formal truce between Taiwan and China to end four decades of hostility. The Nationalist lawmaker, who spoke on condition of anonymity, told reporters that peace guaranteed by such a treaty might facilitate more contacts across the Taiwan Straits. The lawmaker said several of his colleagues also supported the plan and would present it to the Nationalist government after more endorsements are received. The Nationalists maintain they remain technically at war with the Peking government since losing a civil war to the Communists on the mainland and fleeing to Taiwan in 1949. The Premier Yu Kuo-hua said Tuesday the Nationalist government "may consider taking a new policy if Communist China declares openly it will rule out the use of force against Taiwan." Yu made the remarks after several lawmakers asked the government to drop its policy of no contact with China.

Draft to expel fake-asylum seekers

BONN (R) — West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl's cabinet approved a draft bill Tuesday to speed up the expulsion of bogus applicants for political asylum in West Germany. Government sources said the bill provided for one central authority in each of the nation's 10 states and West Berlin to decide on the expulsion of those whose applications were rejected. Previously, applica-

tions were dealt with by the authorities of towns or cities in which they were made. The bill proposed to continue the practice under which border officials can turn back applicants without basis for claims to be escaping political persecution. The interior ministry said 35 per cent of applicants came under this heading. West Germany has been flooded for years by people seeking political asylum, mainly from Asia, the Middle East and Africa. The government has said that in most cases they were in no danger of persecution, but seeking a better standard of living. The sources said that under the bill if a formal request for refuge was rejected, a low-level magistrate court could refuse to allow legal costs to fund appeals to higher courts. The implication appeared to be that lawyers handling such cases would be reluctant to pursue them without a guaranteed fee.

2 killed in foiled Sao Tome coup

LISBON (AP) — Security forces in Sao Tome E Principe crushed an attempted coup Tuesday, killing two of 40 armed raiders who landed by canoe on the West African island nation, a government official said. Information ministry official Joao Carlos said most of the assault party was captured as it attempted to seize the national police headquarters on the coast of the former Portuguese colony, close to the capital Sao Tome. One police officer was wounded in the raid and security forces were combing coastal areas for attackers still on the loose. Portuguese Radio reported from Sao Tome. Carlos, speaking in a telephone interview with Portuguese television, said forces loyal to the Marxist government of Sao Tome President Manuel Pinto Da Costa were securing key facilities including broadcasting stations and the airport. Da Costa appealed Tuesday night for vigilance against renewed attacks in a two-minute broadcast on national radio that followed an emergency cabinet meeting of the country's only political party, the Sao Tome E Principe Liberation Movement, the reports said. The president said calm had been restored on the two-island nation 160 kilometres west of Gabon on the West African coast within hours of the landings on two beaches between 3 and 4 a.m. local time (0300 and 0400 GMT). He blamed the attack on government opponents linked to the national resistance front of Sao Tome E Principe. Portuguese television said the raiders were suspected of launching the attack from Gabon, where the opposition movement is based.

Greek, Turkish premiers nominated for peace prize

ATHENS (AP) — Premiers Andreas Papandreu of Greece and Turgut Ozal of Turkey have been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize, the semi-official Athens News Agency (ANA) said Tuesday. The leaders were nominated by Klaus Schwab, president of the World Economic Forum in Geneva, for their "genuine will to stop a long period of animosity" between the nations, the report said. Papandreu and Ozal met in Davos, Switzerland, during an international business conference hosted by Schwab in late January. At the meeting, which marked the first contact in 10 years between Greek and Turkish leaders, they agreed on a series of measures to solve problems between their nations. "Even though it may take many years for all pending issues between the two countries to be settled, the act of these two men merits distinction as an example of courage and goodwill," ANA quoted Schwab as saying in his letter to the director of the Nobel Institute, Jacob Sverdrup.

Shuttle landing site in Morocco

WASHINGTON (AP) — Construction has begun at an abandoned U.S. Strategic Air Command (SAC) base near Ben Guerir, Morocco, to create an emergency landing site for space shuttles when they begin flying again, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) said Tuesday. The former SAC base has a 4,200-meter runway, but its surface must be rejuvenated to make it usable by shuttles if for some reason they fail to reach the speeds necessary to get into orbit. The Ben Guerir base, 72 kilometres north of Marrakech, will be the fourth emergency site. NASA announced earlier in the week that another airport site in Northwest Africa, in Gambia, will be upgraded to accommodate shuttles.

Key ozone drafts presented

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Soviet Union, accused of foot-dragging by American officials, has presented drafts of two key provisions of a treaty that would reduce sharply the number of U.S. and Soviet strategic nuclear weapons.

One of the documents submitted to American negotiators in Geneva deals with ways to guard

against cheating and the other with procedures for eliminating the weapons.

The aim is to have the treaty ready for the next superpower summit meeting.

The treaty would reduce the total arsenals of U.S. and Soviet long-range bombers, missiles and nuclear submarines by 30 per cent to 50 per cent.

CIA asked arms dealer to buy Soviet tanks

NEW YORK (AP) — An arms dealer charged with plotting to sell weapons to Argentina, Iraq, Poland and the Soviet Union was asked by U.S. intelligence officials to use his contacts in Poland to arrange the purchase of two Soviet "super tanks," his attorney said Tuesday.

Solomon Schwartz, 52, was sought out by the CIA in 1982 and later had contact with the Defence Intelligence Agency concerning the possible purchase of the Soviet T-72 tanks, said attorney Lawrence Dubin. Schwartz negotiated with three Polish generals for the tanks but

the sale never materialised, Dubin said in his opening statement at the trial of Schwartz and three co-defendants, who are also arms dealers.

The defendants are accused of plotting four illegal weapons deals, including smuggling military equipment to the Argentinian government during the Falkland Islands war and an unsuccessful attempt to ship guns to Iraq.

"They were willing to sell to anyone, no matter whose hands the weapons fell into, if the price was right," said Assistant U.S. Attorney Larry Krantz.

WEEKEND CROSSWORD

FOUR-ALARMER

By Jeanne Wilson

ACROSS

- 1 Baby foods
- 2 Broomstick
- 3 Eddies
- 4 Eddies
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- 2 Where name change occurs
- 3 Eng. dramatist
- 4 Long step
- 5 Kind of rug
- 6 Decorative
- 7 Early enough
- 8 Fr. river
- 9 Sailing vessel
- 10 Fr. river
- 11 "and" focus
- 12 Annot.
- 13 de France
- 14 Grable in the past
- 15 Where there's life
- 16 Slaughter
- 17 Ratchet wheel
- 18 Slaughter
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Diagramless

By Martin J. De Wit

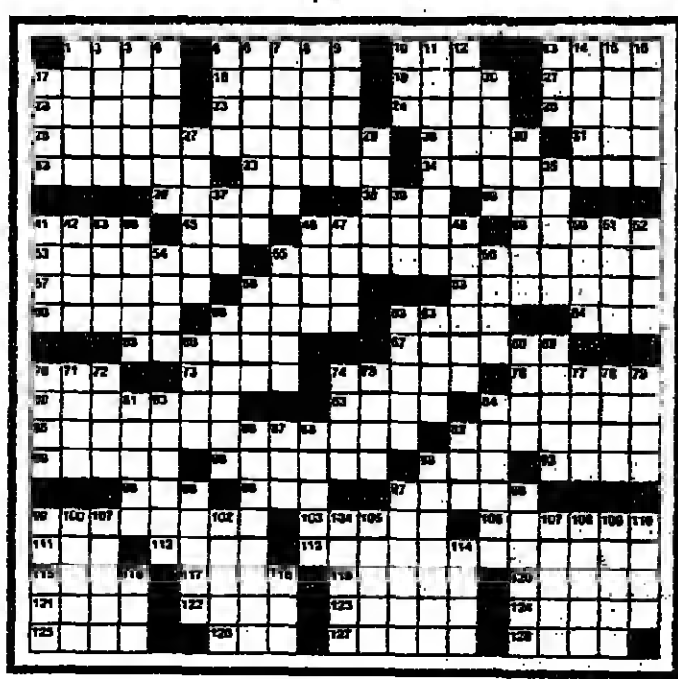
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Edited by Herb Eitzen

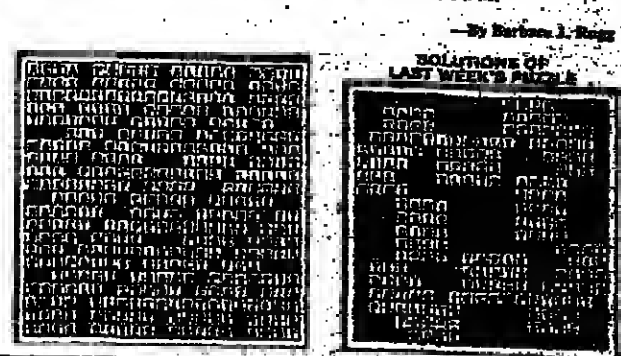


Last Week's Cryptogram

1. Lovelorn were pained by hooves with some said polish and hoped her station was red.
2. Ornithologists sorely agreed that our country can feed on ripe sugar and seed.
3. Undue taxes are the axes used to hew down the forests of our future.
4. Gazelle beats out jostling acrobats in those jungle races.

CRYPTOGRAMS

1. IJQJHNFV VMF ZPQC KPIQLZ JGLU IMBC
ILACM VNXS ANIMUL MBVSJCC KNIM
YUMGNBH —By Sally L. Murray
2. HUES ALFPLANOION ESIAXAET TWIWA
YC PGO AGNAXANWEB REC HORE YO
RGSBUOL TIAREKI EXPFSAFG. —By Len Sherry
3. EMBS OXU CMXLD CMXLD HULKY FLOF AH
SHAYIRE, EIP HMKKO UERA YLS METOF. —By Ed Haddock
4. ARS ZWOOSH OFOOSH PRSY AES PLASH
ZWOT RS FLT ZWOOFRO ZFOOISM. —By Barbara J. Rogers



GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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